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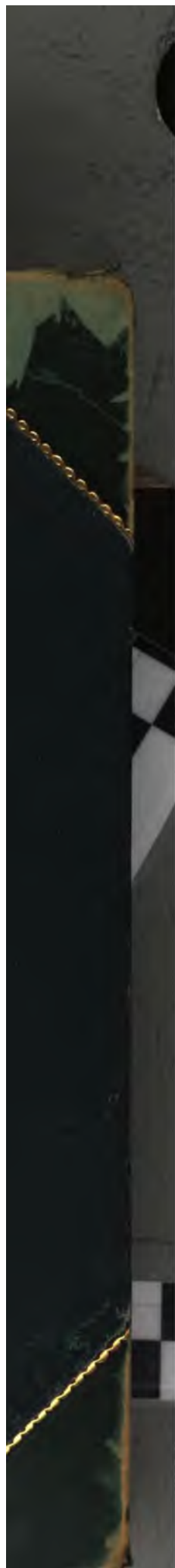
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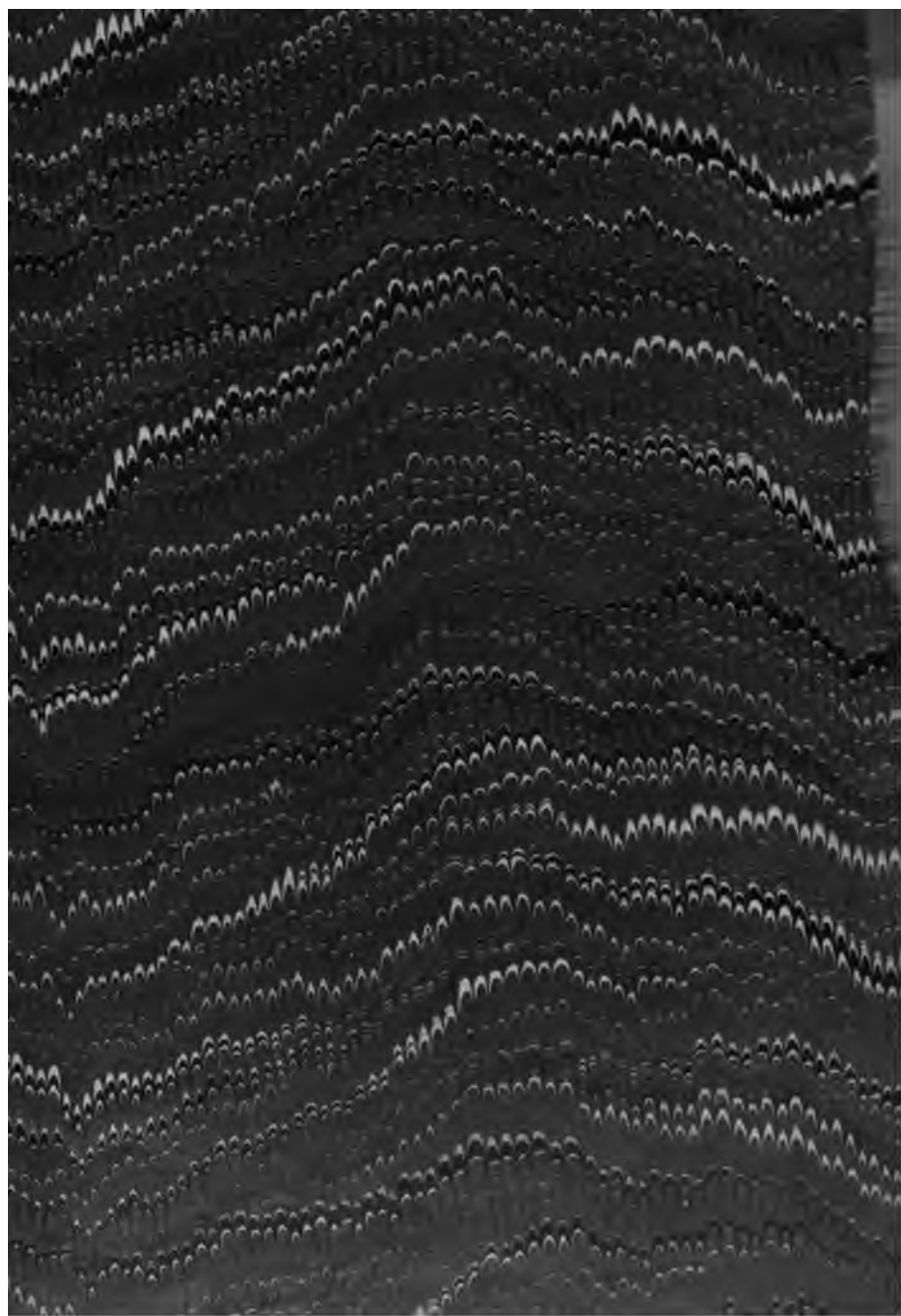
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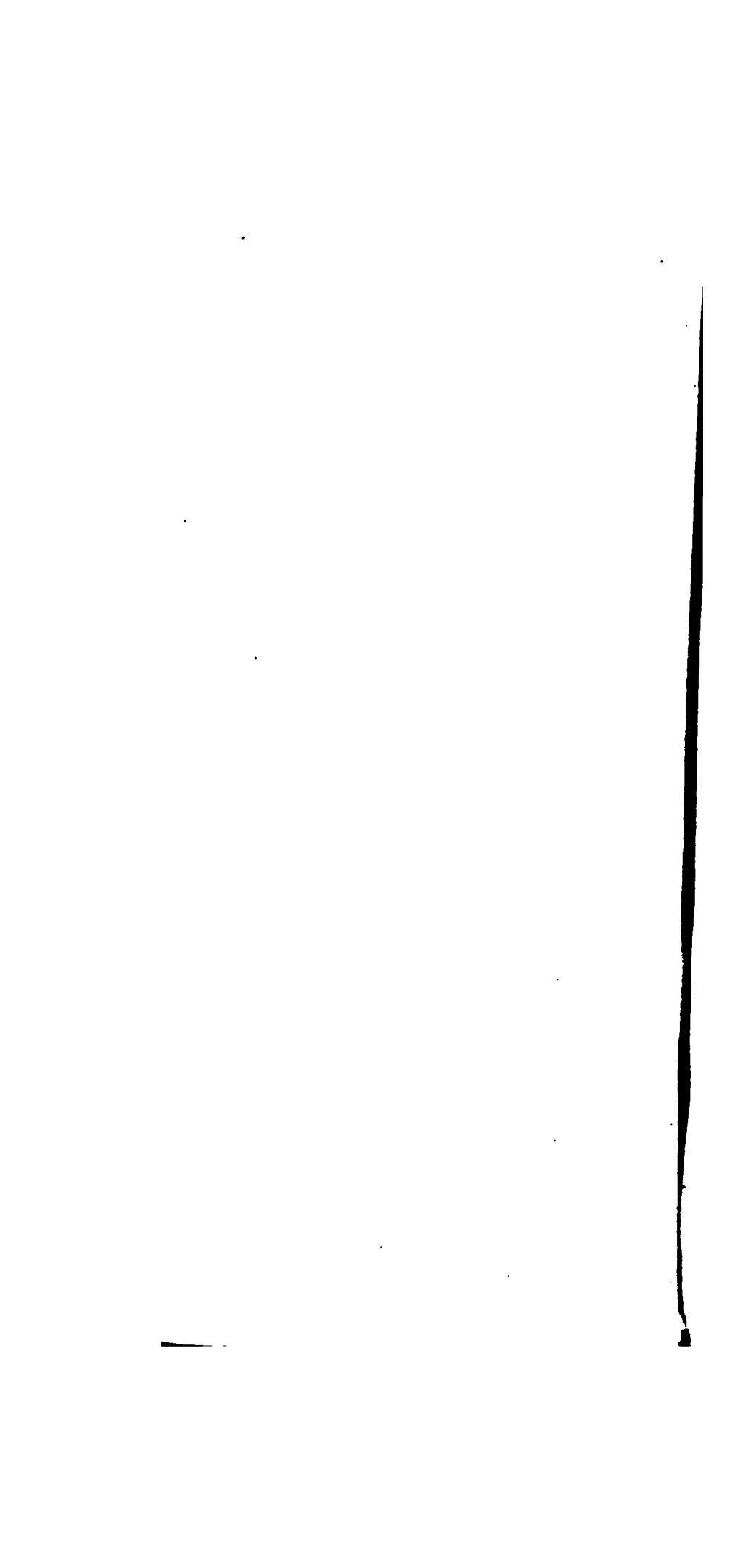
GIFT OF

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THE
DATE - BOOK
OF
REMARKABLE & MEMORABLE EVENTS
CONNECTED WITH
NOTTINGHAM
AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD.

1750-1879,

FROM AUTHENTIC RECORDS.

[by John Frost Sutton]



NOTTINGHAM:
PUBLISHED BY THE PROPRIETOR,
H. FIELD, 16, PARK SIDE, DERBY ROAD.
1880.

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P R E F A C E.

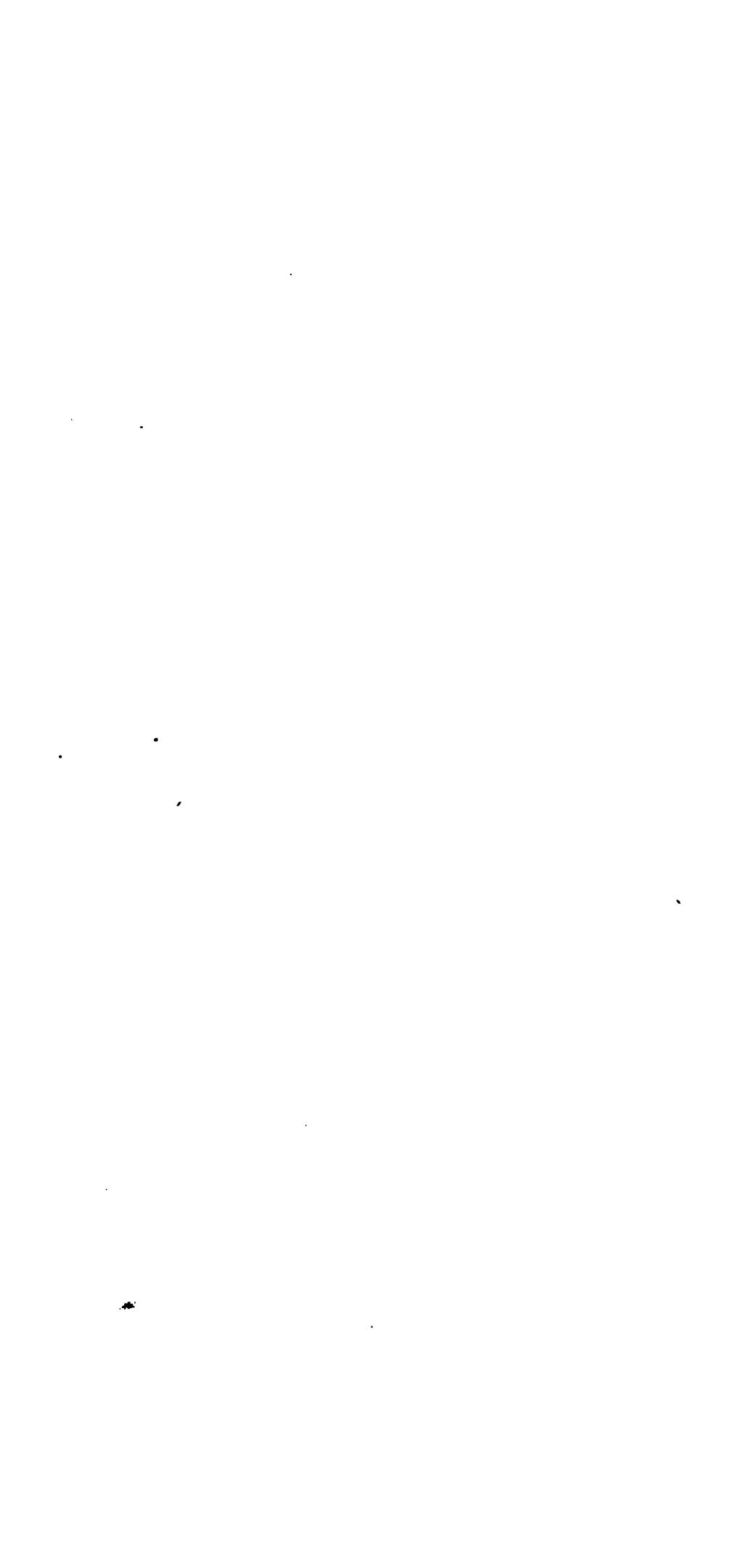
In this edition, the original Date-Book of Nottingham, from 1750 to 1849, from the pen of the late Mr. John Frost Sutton, has been carefully revised, and many important additions have been made to it. The work has been extended from the close of 1849 to that of the present year—a period of thirty years—after considerable research amongst authentic records, and by the contributions of local writers.

I beg to return my grateful acknowledgments for the assistance which I have received during the progress of this work, more especially to E. J. Lowe, Esq., F.R.S., &c., of Highfield House; Martin Inett Preston, Esq., solicitor; Mr. J. Potter Briscoe, F.R.H.S., corporation librarian; and Mr. Fred. Webster, F.R.H.S., who have devoted much valuable time, and supplied a large amount of information, which leaves me largely indebted for their practical sympathy.

To the subscribers, without whose aid the work would not have been issued, my best thanks are tendered.

HENRY FIELD.

December, 1879.



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THE
NOTTINGHAM DATE-BOOK.

1750.

NOTTINGHAM, at the date marked in the margin, bore an aspect widely different from that now presented.* A brief description of the change may not be an inappropriate introduction to these pages.

1750

There were few towns in England whose exterior was then more inviting or picturesque, especially as seen from the south. The description by Deering, a contemporary writer, appears to have been neither overdrawn nor too highly coloured. He observes :—

On the south side, from an high perpendicular rock, it not only overlooks a large plain of rich meadows of its own, but commands an horizon of the compass of many miles. This rock is so high, that many of the bases of the houses built on the edge of it, are at least one-third higher than the tops of some houses in the Narrow-marsh, a street just under the rock. On this side of the town, the middle, adorned with many stately new buildings, the Castle on the left, and Sneinton and Colwick hills on the right, present the traveller coming from the south WITH A SURPRISINGLY GRAND AND MAGNIFICENT PROSPECT, in the framing of which it is hard to say whether Art or Nature has the greatest share; a prospect which puts even a person the most acquainted with all parts of England, to stand, to name its equal.

Could the worthy Doctor rise from the grave-yard of St. Peter's, with his flowing surtout, his powdered wig, three-cornered hat, high-heeled shoes, and silver buckles, and be placed in the Meadows, his surprise now would be, that so fine a view should have been so wofully damaged; and those modern architectural embellishments, the chimney-stalks, the low and dingy habitations, wharf buildings, and other graceful erections, which so greatly mar the prospect, would doubtless provoke an expression of indignant disapproval.

Nor has the deterioration of external beauty been confined to the prospect from the south; it extends in every direction. When the traveller in those days arrived at the summit of either Derby or Mansfield roads, a magnificent panorama lay unveiled at his

* This description of Nottingham in 1750 is reprinted as it appeared in the original edition of the Date-book, published in 1860.

1750 feet, in which the cathedral tower of St. Mary's, the spire of St. Peter's, with its elegant crocket-work, and the numerous noble mansions which adorned the view, and cast around an air of respectability, would be conspicuous objects. In the foreground, the eye would rest upon residences, neat, however homely, and all more or less surrounded by ornamental grounds or gardens. In the centre, roof would seem to mount, as it were upon roof, an illusion arising from the peculiar site, and the houses generally would appear to great advantage; not huddled together as at present in one close compactness, but with wide and frequent intervals inclosing recreation grounds and pleasant gardens in all parts, and free to a great extent from the baneful volumes of smoke which now overhang and obscure the prospect.

To render this more intelligible, and to give the reader a tolerably clear insight into the position of the town and the changes which a hundred years have silently laboured to effect, some degree of minuteness in description will be necessary.

The altered boundaries first claim attention. The pedestrian, wishing to circumambulate the town, would proceed, supposing him to start from the Castle, up Standard-hill (then an open field), and not meet with any house until he arrived at the corner of St. James's-street. Proceeding along the outside streets, his course would then be thus: Mount-street, Chapel-bar, the bottom of Tollhouse-hill, Upper Parliament-street, Milton-street, Lower Parliament-street, St. John's-street, Coalpit-lane, Hockley, Count-street, Carter-gate, Fisher-gate, Narrow-marsh, Broad-marsh, Greyfriars'-gate, Chesterfield-street, and Walnut-tree-lane to the Castle again. Beyond these comparatively small limits, about a mile and three quarters in circumference, there were a number of scattered tenements, probably sixty or eighty. The total number of houses was about 2,300, and of inhabitants, 11,000.

In the interior of the town there was a much greater proportion of genteel residences than at present. The Castle was a principal seat of the Pelham family,* and the noble Duke, its owner, as Recorder of the borough, was regarded as the patron of the town, and was on terms of intimacy with the leading inhabitants. Thurland House, or Clare Hall (so designated from having been the residence of the Earls of Clare) was in the possession of the same noble family. The Hon. Rothwell Willoughby, (brother to Lord Middleton), lived in the mansion on the Low-pavement now occupied by Mr. Biddulph. Sir William Parsons had a large establishment on Short-hill. Mr. Gregory had an ancient mansion in Carlton-street. John Sherwin, Esq., occupied the old family seat [since greatly altered] at the upper end of Pilcher-gate. F. Thornhaugh, Esq., M.P., had a house [not now standing] on St. Mary's-hill, nearly opposite the iron gates of Plumtre House. Mr. Gawthorn was the proprietor and occupier of Vout Hall, on the Low-pavement. Mrs. Newdigate lived in the elegant mansion

* The house at Clumber was not commenced till 1770.

at the west end of Castle-gate, now in the possession of Mr. 1750 Jalland, architect, and celebrated as the residence during part of his captivity in this country, of Count Tallard, commandant of the French forces at Blenheim, where he was taken prisoner in 1704. Another commodious house, on the south side of the same street, was occupied by a lady of good property, named Bennett. There was also the house of the Hon. William Pierrepont, the property of John Plumptre, Esq.; and Mr. Langford Collin, and members of other distinguished families, had suitable residences. It is left upon record by Deering, that eleven gentlemen in the town maintained coaches or chariots, besides a considerable number who kept chaises and chairs. The nobility and gentry have since fled into the country, and Nottingham cannot boast of even one individual, resident within its limits, who regularly keeps his carriage and horses.

The disposition or arrangement of the town generally, formed also a striking contrast to the present. As already intimated, the blocks of houses were in a great measure detached from each other, and the population more widely spread. The following instances selected from a large number, will illustrate this point:—The numerous outlets from the Market-place to Parliament-street contained comparatively few houses, and inclosed store-grounds and gardens. A large orchard occupied a site extending where the lower part of Park-row now stands to Mount-street, bounded at the upper end by the Baptists' burial-ground. Between the latter thoroughfare and St. James's-street were pleasure-grounds, connected with a few houses. The site between St. James's-street and Friar-lane was almost entirely appropriated to garden purposes; and even the area bounded by buildings on South-parade, Wheeler-gate, St. Peter's-square, and Peck-lane, was likewise open and partly cultivated. Mr. Sherwin had a close of grass land in Pilcher-gate, and paddocks, principally for horses, were not uncommon adjuncts to respectable tenements. Mr. Sherwin had also a large cherry-orchard on both sides of Coalpit-lane, where Cherry-street, Cherry-place, Sherwin-court, and other seats of dense populations are now found. The large area bounded by Clumber-street, Pelham-street, and Carlton-street, Broad-street, and Parliament-street (including the site of the modern thoroughfare, George-street), embraced, in addition to buildings along part of the three former streets, an orchard, several extensive gardens, and a very large field, shaded by twenty or thirty noble trees. It may be stated, *en passant*, that trees were a common feature of most localities. There were several in a small close at the bottom of Woolpack-lane. Two aged sycamores graced the open space in front of the Leather Bottle inn. A row of elms along a portion of the west side of Stoney-street, made it doubtless a favourite promenade. Both banks of the Leen [since arched over,] were to a great extent occupied with willows. A row of poplars flourished along the north side of Parliament-street. Seven umbrageous elms, of

1750 goodly proportions, in a line parallel with South-parade, formed a conspicuous feature in the Market-place; and without further enlargement on this point, trees were both common and numerous. It will thus be seen, that the streets and courts were by no means the close and unhealthy places they are at the present day. According to the account taken in 1739, (eleven years previously, during which interval, however, the population increased but slightly), Mount-street contained but 34 houses [and there are now, exclusive of the tributary courts and places, to include which would swell the number almost indefinitely, within the same limits, about 70]; Milton-street contained but 9; Broad-street, 17 [now 45]; Byard-lane, 3; Bottle-lane, 13; Chandler's-lane, 26; Clumber-street, 19; Coalpit-lane, 4; Goose-gate, 21; High-street, 8; High-pavement, 48; Count-street, 8; Stoney-street, 26; Woolpack-lane, 17; St. Peter's church-side, 5; Carlton-street, 14; &c. The figures quoted are conclusive in showing how judiciously the population was spread over a comparatively large surface; nearly all the courts and yards that now swarm with inhabitants, being the sad creations of later years.

A remarkable change in the nomenclature of the streets calls here for incidental notice. Broad-street was known as *Broad-lane*; Beast-market-hill, as *Beast-hill* or *Friar-row*; Bottle-lane still retained in legal documents its ancient appellation, *Linby-lane*; Byard-lane was also known as *Woller-lane*; Chesterfield-street, as *Chesterfield-lane*; Canal-street, as *Leen-side*; Count-street, as *Palavicini's-row*; Carlton-street, as *Swine-green*; Cheapside, as *Rotten-row*; Church-street, as *St. Peter's-lane*; Clumber-street, as *Cow-lane*; Chapel-bar, as *Bar-gate*; 'Change-alley, as *Shoe-booths*; Chandler's-lane, as *Chaler's-lane*; 'Friar-lane, as *Moothall-gate*; Fletcher-gate, as *Flesher-gate*; Goose-gate (with some), as anciently, *Gosse-gate*; Garner's-hill, as *Brightmoor-hill*; High-street, also as *Sadler-gate*; Hockley, as *Hockley-hole*; Halifax-place, as *Jack Nuttall's-lane*; The Hollows (lower part), as *Bog-hole*; Middle-hill, as *Mont-lane*; Milton-street, as *Boot-lane*; Maiden-lane, as *Fair Maiden-lane*; Mount-street, as *Bearward-lane*; Market-street, as *Blowbladder-street*; Pelham-street, as *Gridlesmith-gate*; Park-street, as *Friar-lane*; Parliament-street, as *The Back-side*; Park-row, as *Butt-dyke*; the Poultry, as *Cuckstool-row*; Postern-place, as *Johnson's-court*; Red Lion-square, as *The Bridge-foot*; Sussex-street, as *Turncalf-alley*; St. John's-street, as part of *Coalpit-lane*; St. James's-street, as *St. James's-lane*; the south end of Stoney-street, as *St. Mary's-hill*; a thoroughfare from 'Change-alley to Smithy-row, as *Shamble-lane*; Friar-yard, as *The Whitefriars*; South-parade, as *Timber-hill*; Tollhouse-hill, as *Toller's-hill*; Water-street, as *Back-lane*; Woolpack-lane, as *Newark-lane*; Wheeler-gate, as *Wheelwright gate*; Warser-gate, as *Worser-lane*; Bond-street (York-street to Mansfield-road), as *Bedlam-court*; and Drury-hill, as *Vout-lane*. This list might even be further extended; and considering that the whole of the streets and places in the

town were not one hundred in number, reveals the fact of a very large proportion having undergone a change of name. 1750

The altered dimensions and overcrowding of the town are doubtless traceable to the influence of local manufactures. The wide extension of the hosiery, and the subsequent rise and rapid expansion of the lace, increased the population very considerably, and habitations sprang up in all directions, with the least possible regard to external appearances or sanitary regulations.

Of the trades or manufactures then conducted, the principal were,—the hosiery, and the conversion of barley into malt. In the former, there were fifty manufacturers, employers of frames, or as they were commonly called “putters out,” who all traded directly with London, besides others who only dealt with Leicester. Unitedly, they found work for above 3,000 frames, of which upwards of 1,200 were in the town, and the rest in villages adjacent. Upon these frames depended the support of “the masters,” 3,000 knitters, a considerable number of winders, sizers, and seamers, and woolcombers, framesmiths, setters-up, sinker-makers, needle-makers, &c.; in the whole upwards of 4,000. In the malting business, there were about forty sets of rooms within the town, and some idea of the extent of the trade may be gathered from the fact that, one sitting with another, the maltsters averaged in their aggregate payments to the Excise, £1,000 a time.

There is no means of ascertaining with precision the numbers engaged in other departments of trade. In 1739, however, Nottingham possessed 5 apothecaries, 15 attorneys, 40 bakers, 1 banker, (Mr. Smith), 30 barbers, 4 basket-makers, 1 bell-founder, 1 bird-cage-maker, 3 bleachers, 3 booksellers, 2 brass foundry, 3 braziers, 11 bricklayers, 65 butchers, 3 button-makers, 7 carpenters, 9 carriers, 10 chandlers, 1 coachmaker, 3 collar-makers, 1 confectioner, 7 coopers, 1 cork-cutter, 1 counsellor, 4 curriers, 3 cutlers, 3 distillers, 5 drapers, 3 druggists, 1 drysalter, 3 dyers, 2 felmongers, 4 fishmongers and ironmongers (then one business), 1 file cutter, 20 gardeners, 1 glass-manufacturer (the manufacture was carried on at works in Glasshouse-street), 12 gloves and makers of breeches, 3 goldsmiths, 4 dealers in hats, 3 hair-pickers, 41 innkeepers, 24 joiners, 1 lead manufacturer, (the works were situated at the south-west end of Broad-marsh, on the site now occupied by part of Carrington-street), 2 mat-makers, 12 mercers, 1 miller, 3 milliners, 1 nailor, 9 plumbers, 2 printers, 3 painters, 2 paviours, 6 physicians, 1 pin manufacturer, 12 plasterers, 2 potters, 91 pot or ale-houses, 2 rope-makers, 7 saddlers, 30 shoemakers, 3 smiths, 4 soap-boilers, 4 staymakers, 1 stonecutter, 3 surgeons, 3 tanners, 52 tailors, 2 tinmen, 4 pipemakers, 3 dealers in toys, 3 turners, 10 bricklayers, 2 upholsterers, 5 weavers of linen, 2 wheelwrights, 2 woodenheel makers, and 3 woolcombers. These, it must be inferred, were master tradesmen; and making the necessary addition in some branches for the slight increase of population, would maintain the same proportion in 1750. The most striking change shown by the

1750 list, is the much greater proportion of persons engaged in the manufacture and sale of alcoholic liquors, and the substantial necessities of life, than at the present time. The public-houses of all grades were in the proportion of 1 in 17 of the total number of houses; the proportion is now less than one in 24. Instead of 40 malting establishments, there are now only 27; and of the three distilleries that then flourished there remains no trace whatever. At the present time there are 90 tradesmen engaged in the bread and flour business; this only shows an increase of about 100 per cent. during the century, as there were 42 bakers in the year 1750, though the population was but a fifth of what it is at the present day. Butchers have increased from 65 to nearly 200,—about 300 per cent., the population having increased meanwhile more than 700 per cent. It is an *unhealthy* symptom, on the other hand, of a change in the requirements of society, that the physicians, surgeons, apothecaries, and druggists, who then numbered 17 collectively, should now number 76. Beef, bread, and beer were evidently in much greater repute than physic. Concurrently with this, we have an undue increase of another necessary evil: the number of lawyers has swelled from 15 to 53.

The prices of provisions were generally much lower than we now find them. The following appears to have been the general rate:—Wheat, 28s. to 32s. per qr.; barley, 16s.; rye, 14s.; oats, 7s. to 10s.; beans and peas, 16s. to 30s. (extremely fluctuating); malt 24s. Beef, veal, mutton, lamb, and pork, on an average 2½d. per lb.*; butter, from 4d. to 6d. per lb.; cheese, 3d. per lb.; eggs, 30 to 50 for 1s.; fowls, per couple, 1s. 4d. to 2s.; pigeons, per dozen, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d. A goose, green, 1s.; stubble, 1s. 6d.; Christmas, 2s. to 2s. 6d. Ducks, per couple, 8d. to 1s. and 1s. 6d.; a turkey, from 2s. to 3s.; rabbits, per couple, 6d. to 8d.; and peas, green, per peck, 4d. to 6d.

Bridlesmith-gate and the Long-row were the seats of the principal tradesmen's shops; most of them were open in front, and the passer-by had simply to halt, and the shopkeeper and goods were fully at command. Those protected by windows were few in number, with panes of glass miserably small and opaque. The tradesmen themselves were generally a jovial, hearty, and independent class of men; the modern art of *puffing* was but in its infancy, and he who would offer his commodities at less than current rates, was thought mean and dishonourable. Failures were comparatively rare.

* The following is a copy of a butcher's bill paid by Mr. Hustwaite, of St. James's-street, about this period, and now in the author's possession. Compared with later prices, it becomes a document worthy of record:—

1748.		£	s.	d.
Oct.	18 A Leg of Mutton, 6lb. at 2½d.	..	0	1 3
—	19 A Calve's Head .. ..	..	0	0 9
—	22 A Saddle of Mutton .. ..	..	0	2 2
—	29 Beef, 7½lb. at 3d. .. ..	..	0	1 10½
Nov.	1 A Leg of Veal, 7lb. at 2d. .. ..	..	0	1 2
—	2 A Leg of Mutton .. ..	..	0	1 4
—	6 Beef, 8lbs. at 3d. .. ..	..	0	2 0
			0	10 6½

The internal arrangement of the Market-place was thus :—a structure known as the Malt Cross stood in the centre between Sheep-lane and St. James's-street ; its base was four feet high, upon which rested six pillars, covered with a tiled roof, and the whole surmounted with six sundials and a vane. Within this cross and around it sat those, on market-days, who sold china and earthenware ; and it was from this structure that all proclamations or declarations of war or peace were read, in a face of the full market : it was also the usual resort of labourers waiting for employment. The Exchange, then called "The New Change," presented a red brick front, supported by ten stone pillars forming a piazza : and in the middle of the facade were three niches of stone, originally designed as receptacles for statues of George the First and the Prince and Princess of Wales : these niches were unoccupied, and continued so up to the time of their demolition in 1815. The figure of *Astræa*, the Goddess of Justice, surveyed the market, as now, from the top of the building. In front, were the stalls of fishmongers and dealers in hardwares. Farmers and cornfactors occupied a large space in front of the Malt Cross. The gardeners took their station from the middle of Long-row up to Chapel-bar. In *The Sands* (more in the centre, parallel with the Row) was the market for horses. The dealers in swine were to be met with on the South-parade, a dirty and generally noisome swamp. The other parts of the spacious area were covered with miscellaneous merchandise.*

In addition to the Malt Cross, the town possessed two others, the Hen Cross and Weekday Cross. The former stood about equidistant from the Poultry and Cheapside, about twelve yards from the Elizabethan House. The Cross consisted of a respectable

* The present dimensions of the Market-place are as follows :

AREAS.		sq. yds.
The open space bounded on the north by the Long-row ; south by South-parade, &c. ; east, by the Exchange ; and on the west by a line drawn across the upper part, from Cannon-yard to Green-yard, measures		19403
The open space between the Long-row and Smithy-row, from the Exchange-front to High-street, is		4262
The open space between the Poultry and Cheapside, from the Exchange-front to High-street is		2490
Total		20155
Supposing the Market-place to continue as far west as the end of Mount-street, there must be added the above		1360
Total square yards		27515
Or, Five Acres, Two Roods, Thirty Perches, nearly.		
LENGTHS.		yd. f. in.
Long-row, from Mount-street to Clumber-street		419 2 2
Smithy-row		113 2 10
Exchange Front		39 1 9
Exchange-alley		48 1 2
Cheapside		73 0 9
Poultry		107 2 4
Timber-hill		136 0 6
Beastmarket-hill		92 1 2
Angel-row		136 0
Total length of frontage round the Market-place		1167 0 8
Across the ends of the different streets leading to the Market-place		77 0 8
Total length round the Market-place		1244 1 4
Or, 75 yards, 1 foot, 8 inches less than three-quarters of a mile.		

1750 column on an hexangular base four steps high, and around it, the country people, on Saturdays, exposed for sale all kinds of poultry. The Weekday Cross was a column on an octangular base larger than the former, with four steps, and stood in the open space near the Town Hall. The Wednesdays and Fridays markets were held around it, chiefly for butter, eggs, wild fowl, pigeons, fruit, and fish: a number of shambles, to the north and south of this Cross, were open all the week, except Saturday and Sunday, for the sale of meat. The Saturday meat-market was for the most part confined to the neighbourhood of the Exchange.

The means of transport for travellers and merchandise were also in strange contrast with the present. The roads were in such an execrable state as, with few exceptions, not to be passable for a cart, or other wheeled vehicle. Consequent on this, the internal trade of the island had to be carried on by means of pack horses, and a few navigable rivers, the very idea of canals and good macadamized roads being deemed highly problematical. Lines of horses or mules, each from a dozen to thirty or forty in number, the first having a bell, conveyed through long winding lanes, a large part of the merchandise. The trader or merchant, who in most cases accompanied his pack, received his balances in guineas, which, with a pair of loaded pistols, he carried in his saddle-bag. On the principal highways, where passable, heavy and cumbrous vehicles were used, as improved means of locomotion. These clumsy contrivances were made very strong, to resist injury from the dangerous inequalities of the roads, and carried no passengers on the roof, but each had a large basket—literally a basket—swung behind, for half-price passengers. The coachman had four horses in hand, and a postilion rode a pair of leaders. Three miles an hour, including stoppages, was thought a good pace, and four a wonderment. There were also road waggons, travelling at a still slower rate, as cumbrous and ugly as the mind can well conceive.

So defective were the roads in the Midland counties that, up to about this period, they were generally of the most primitive kind—rude, rutty, and abominable. Even in the neighbourhood of Nottingham, some of them were at times impassable for vehicles of any description; and in the winter months, it happened not infrequently, that waggons and coaches stuck in the mud, and were left there till extrication became more easy. In 1749, William Hutton, the Birmingham historian, who gained a precarious subsistence in Nottingham as a bookseller, attended Southwell on market-days, whenever practicable. He represents the road [now one of the best in the county] as “despicable,” and as taking him five hours to traverse the fourteen miles, though a good pedestrian. In one of these journeys he describes himself as meeting in the Forest, four deer-stealers returning with a buck, and being put in fear lest he should be knocked on the head to keep silence. The Forest, it may be remarked at this point, retained much of its pristine glory, and the road from Nottingham to Mansfield passed

through what was for the most part, in spite of large inclosures, one continued wood. The road to Loughborough, long in a most dangerous and impassable state, having recently been a subject of extensive repairs, was decidedly in the best condition of any. 1750

The Trent, however, was the great highway for goods and merchandise. The town was supplied through this medium with bar-iron, block-tin, wines, oils, groceries, salt, tar, hops, hemp, flax, drugs, and foreign timber; and in return, sent coal, lead, timber, corn, wool, potters'-ware, and large quantities of Cheshire, Warwickshire, and Staffordshire cheese.

Owing to the bad state of the highways, the carriers, whether by pack or wheel-carriage, were in number very limited. The following is understood to be a complete list:—First, there were three which set out weekly on Tuesday mornings for the Metropolis, returning each Friday night.* Next in importance was the carrier to York, who started on Tuesday at three in the morning (half an hour after his London brethren), and returned on Saturday. The Leicester carrier set out on Monday and Thursday, returning on Tuesday and Friday. The Mansfield carrier came in on Wednesday and Saturday, and returned the same days. The Derby carrier came in and returned on Wednesday and Friday. The Melton carrier came in on Friday, and returned on Saturday. The Loughborough carrier came in on Wednesday and Friday, and returned the same days. The Southwell carrier came in on Wednesday and Friday, and returned the same days. The Leeds, Sheffield, and Chesterfield carrier came in on Tuesday, and returned on Wednesday. The carrier to Lincoln and Boston went out on Monday and Friday, returning generally the day following. The Alfreton carrier came in on Friday, and returned on Saturday. The Manchester carrier came in on Friday, and returned the day following. The Bristol carrier came in on Wednesday, and returned immediately. The Birmingham carrier came in on Wednesday, and returned the next day: and lastly, the Bewdley carrier came in every other Wednesday, and returned on Thursday. So inadequate were these conveyances to accommodate the intercourse of the district, that no fewer than 400 saddle-horses were kept by the middle and trading classes of Nottingham alone, a proportion of about one horse to each 29 inhabitants.

These means of conveyance were, however, inaccessible to the generality of the working classes, who, when required at distant places, had to perform many a weary pilgrimage on foot. The idea of such a luxury as cheap railway trains flying at a speed of *twenty* miles an hour, would have been deemed highly utopian and visionary. William Hutton states in his "Life," that when in business in Nottingham (at about the date indicated in the margin), he walked to London and back for the purpose of buying tools, and was nine days away from home, six of which were spent in

* The first conveyance between Nottingham and London commenced running in 1772, and started from Silk Mill-yard, Parliament-street: Richard Sutton, collar and harness-maker, proprietor.

1750 going and returning. He travelled all the way on foot, dreading robbers, and still more dreading the cost of food and lodging at public-houses. His whole expenses during this toilsome expedition were only ten shillings and eightpence; but he contented himself with the barest necessities, keeping the money for his tools sewed up in his shirt-collar. If Hutton had lived in these days, he would, upon principles of sheer economy, taking into account the loss of time, have gone to London and back by a "*Government train*," as well as have avoided much fatigue and danger.

The nobility and gentry were accustomed to make their long journeys in ponderous family carriages, drawn by four horses. These vehicles would be laden at top with an array of trunks and boxes, while perhaps six or seven persons, with a lap-dog, would be stowed within. The danger of famine on the road was averted by a travelling larder of baskets of various condiments; the risk of thirst would be provided against by bottles of usquebaugh, black cherry brandy, cinnamon water, sack, port, or strong beer: while the convoy would be protected by a basket-hilted sword, an old blunderbuss, and a bag of bullets, and a great horn of gunpowder.

Such protection in those days was necessary. The roads were infested with highwaymen, and stoppages were of almost daily occurrence. Many a Dick Turpin traversed the open roads and frequented the secluded nooks of this and the neighbouring counties, and an encounter with one or more of them was a contingency against which the prudent traveller had to provide. The highwaymen were in general wary and desperate, well knowing that if once in the clutches of the law, their doom was certain. Death was the common punishment of this and other offences. "Guilty—Death," were familiar words in the criminal courts. It was death to steal mutton—death requited the industry of the burglar, the shoplifter, and the coiner—death attended all, and was regarded as the great conservator of social security. *De minimis curabat Mos.* The murderer fared little worse than the robber of a hen-roost. Thrust alike into an underground cell, they were led forth at the appointed hour, to expiate their crime on Gallows-hill.

Felons in the Town Jail were chained in vaults under the present building. Their condition was at times wretched, the distemper known as "jail fever," raging so violently as to decimate their number. Debtors were incarcerated in the cells above. The County Jail on the High-pavement, occupied but a part of the site of the present structure. It had a barn-like appearance, with three large wooden gates in front in a very dilapidated state, and was altogether little better than a ruin.

The amount of crime, notwithstanding the severity of the law, was relatively greater than we now find it. The prevailing immorality was doubtless one great incentive to its perpetration. This immorality existed with open and unblushing front. Drunkenness and debauchery were vices alike common, with few exceptions, to rich and poor. The taint which Charles II. and his licentious

court had inflicted on the nation, still festered, and had extended through all the ramifications of society. If a gentleman or tradesman was honest in his outward dealings, and punctual and honourable in his worldly engagements, his private vices and peccadilloes were little heeded; and an indulgence in licentiousness was no obstacle to a man's entrance into good society. Until the reign of George III. (ten years after this date), a Royal *mistress* continued to be maintained at Court as a State appendage, by which the public immorality was kept in countenance; and we are gravely told that right reverend prelates, as well as political aspirants, did not disdain to watch the politics, and profit by the favour, of the predominating lady of the day. 1750

Another great cause of crime was, the neglected state of the people as respects education. Three-fourths of the commonality were incapable of using a pen, and a vast proportion could not even read. Day-schools were few in number, and sadly wanting in efficiency: Sunday-schools were totally unknown.

Taking this state of things into account, it can no longer be deemed surprising that the town should have supported so many public-houses. The coarse song and the latest piece of scandal formed the intellectual repast of multitudes, and convivial parties and bacchanalian clubs were numerous. The most remarkable of these clubs was that, probably, which met at the Union Inn, on the Long-row [the premises now divided into two shops at the junction with Sheep-lane]. Four o'clock in the morning was the time of meeting, and one of its standing rules provided that every man who had not emptied his quart pot of strong ale, for which the house was famous, before the clock struck six, should forfeit a gallon for those present. Regulations equally preposterous prevailed in other associations of a like character; and some were distinguished by party predilections, Orange or Jacobite, as the case might be.

The Jacobite spirit lingered in the breasts of many, notwithstanding the terrible blow inflicted at Culloden. The following sketch, illustrative of local Jacobitism, appeared originally in *The Town Magazine* in 1836:—

"The house standing at the north-west corner of Chapel-bar, formerly known by the sign of 'The Eagle and Child,' and at present occupied by Mr. Deverill, as a spirit store, was erected in the year 1714, by Mr. Thomas Hawksley, an alderman of the town, and great-great uncle to the present Mr. Hawksley, architect and surveyor. Mr. Alderman Hawksley was a violent Jacobite, or maintainer of the rights of the Stuarts; in favour of which family there had always existed a powerful party in the town, as is proved by the return of members to Parliament, and the elections to corporate honours. In the year 1715, the eventful year of the first Rebellion in the North in favour of the exiled family, Mr. Hawksley was nominated to the mayoralty; during which period, and probably on the occasion of some temporary success that fol-

1750 lowed the first movements of the partisans of Charles James, Mr. Hawksley gave an entertainment to a party of his political friends at his own house, when, probably in a state of inebriety or elevation of spirits from those copious libations of strong ale, in which the aldermen of Nottingham, along with the rest of the inhabitants, were at that time accustomed to indulge on festive occasions, and to which Mr. Hawksley, from the nature of his business, he being a maltster, as had been his family through several successive generations, might be considered to be more than ordinarily addicted, *he went down on his bare knees* before the company, and from a large silver tankard, out of which he was accustomed to regale his friends, drank—'Success to the House of Stuart! and ——— to their enemies!' at least so swore one Mather, an attendant or waiter, on whose oath the Mayor was committed by a brother Magistrate to the House of Correction. As might be expected, a considerable degree of confusion attended the execution of this warrant, and several persons were severely injured. The Orange party, however, finally prevailed, and his worship was safely lodged within the walls of the prison.

"A Hall was immediately called, and, after a very stormy contention, during which the whole corporate body were more than once on the point of getting to cudgels, or handy-cuffs, the Whigs succeeded in carrying a vote to deprive Mr. Hawksley of his official dignity, and invest Mr. Alderman Watkinson with the mace.

"During the period of Mr. Hawksley's detention in prison, which was only for a short time, he was visited by vast numbers of his brother Jacobites, more especially those of the higher class in society for many miles round, the novelty of the circumstances having created a considerable sensation in the adjacent parts, with congratulations on his spirit and patriotism, and offers of pecuniary and legal assistance.

"It is creditable to the parties opposed to the recusant Mayor to say that they offered no unreasonable opposition to his receiving all the comforts and accommodation during his confinement which himself or friends deemed necessary; he kept a good table in the House of Correction, and had every day a party to dine with him; the bed on which he slept was furnished from his own house; the bed furniture was green damask, and of these curtains a flag was afterwards made, which was many years the rallying standard of the Tory, or high-church party, as they were then called, upon public occasions. Mr. Hawksley brought three distinct actions against the committing Magistrate for false imprisonment; but failed in every one of them, though there was no statute in existence under which he could have been convicted of a crime: the Act against the uttering of seditious expressions not being passed until many years after that period.

"We cannot dismiss this account of Mr. Hawksley's imprisonment without again carrying our readers back for a few

moments to the old house. At the time the above event took place, the ancient gateway called Chapel-bar, was in existence. It consisted of a postern on each side the road, abutting nearly upon the corner of Mr. Alderman Hawksley's house on the one side, and the house lately occupied by Mr. Armitage, gardener, on the other, standing a few yards in advance of both buildings up Derby-road, and, consequently, narrowing the entrance into Parliament-street so much, as scarcely to admit of a carriage entering; between the posterns was a gateway, about 15 feet high, and sufficiently wide for a carriage to pass through, into which opened two doors from arched pentagonal shaped rooms, one of which had formerly been used as a guard-room, and the other as a chapel, from which the gateway received its distinctive appellation. This deserted chapel Mr. Hawksley converted into a brewhouse: and there was concocted that inspiring nectar which had inflamed his loyalty to such a high degree in favour of his former sovereign and family. This occupying of the place where altars and confessional stools had stood, with coppers and mash-tubs, which utensils continued to be the furniture of the place until the whole gateway was pulled down in the year 1743, gave occasion to a wag of that day to write the following distich, and paste it one morning on the brewhouse door:—

Here priests of old turned wafers into God,
And gave poor laymen bread, for flesh and blood;
But now a liquid mystery's here set up!
Where priest and laymen, both, partake the cup.

After the Town Wall had been destroyed, and the bastions at Chapel-bar had ceased to be of importance as works of defence, a quantity of earth was carried to the top, and a pretty garden formed thereon. Right over the gateway a sycamore tree was planted, which in Deering's time was large enough to be formed into a bower, under which six or eight persons could conveniently sit; the remainder was laid out into a flower garden, which was celebrated for the growth of tulips and other choice flowers."

Popular amusements or relaxation was not, however, confined to such places of resort. Professional men and trademen knew how to combine pleasure with business, in various ways. The chase, in the immediate neighbourhood, was well provided with fallow deer, and an excellent pack of hounds was maintained in the town by subscription, and another, by the Hon. Rothwell Willoughby, of the Low-pavement, for those who chose to follow the hare; and game of all kinds was plentiful, alike for the huntsman and the fowler. St. Ann's Well was for many a favourite resort: this hostelry was most respectable, and the attractions of no mean order; the company in the summer season were entertained very agreeably; sometimes a concert of "aerial musicians" would transmit sweet sounds from the adjoining coppice; at others, gay forms and smiling faces would thread the mazy dance. Those fond of bowls found at Holme Pierrepont (a favourite walk), as large and fine a bowling-green as any in England, and each Thursday

1750 in the season a plentiful ordinary and good company were there to be met with : similar company, though not so select, joined in bowling and an ordinary each Tuesday on a green at the then retired village of Basford ; and "the Town Green" was open any day in the week. There was also bowling, each Monday and Wednesday, on the green at St. Ann's Well.

The Green-court of the Castle was much frequented in fine weather, by both ladies and gentlemen, as a place of recreation. Monthly assemblies for dancing and cards, were in full vogue : "The Ladies' Assembly" was held in the room on the Low-pavement, and was accessible to none but the gentility ; and "The Tradesmen's Assembly" met in the large room at Thurland Hall. These were some of the leading attractions for ladies : there were many of minor importance, among which we may class a bathing-place at Trent-bridge, where, in the summer season, says Deering, the fair sex had conveniences to bathe unseen.

The old national sports of horse-racing, bull-baiting, cock-fighting, &c., were shared in by all classes. The races took place in July, and were in the zenith of their popularity. Bull-baiting was a very favourite diversion : it had been customary, up to about this period, for a butcher to bait his bull before being permitted to slaughter it in the town, for which purpose a ring was fixed in the Market-place, and the Mayoress found a rope, for which she received a shilling from each burgess when he took up his freedom ; this was called the Mayoress's pin-money. The Burton-leys and the inclosure at the back of the Leather Bottle Inn, were also arenas for the same brutalizing sport. The cock-pits were in connection with the large inns.

The evil inseparable from these debasing pursuits extended further than their brutalizing tendency, they fostered a spirit of gambling and dissipation ; and the wages of the working men being generally lower than at the present day, any abstraction therefrom for such indulgences must have been seriously felt by their families.

Religious teachings were to a great extent ineffectual in controlling the vicious tendency of the times. A settled lethargy had enfolded the religious public in its somniferous embrace, and pulpit ministrations, with few exceptions, were cold and heartless. The three parochial churches had the largest congregations : the Rev. Scroop Berdmore held the vicarage of St. Mary, the Rev. E. Chappell, A.M., was the rector of St. Peter's, and the Rev. George Wakefield, A.M., the incumbent of St. Nicholas's. The society worshipping in the Presbyterian meeting-house on the High-pavement was under the pastorate of the Rev. Dr. Samuel Eaton. The Rev. James Sloss was the pastor of the Independent church, meeting in Castle-gate. The Baptists met in the chapel, Park-street, under the ministrations of Mr. George Eaton ; owing, however, to a recent division, part of them assembled for worship at a house in Pilcher-gate, under the charge of a schoolmaster, named

Morley. The Society of Friends met in the chapel on Spaniel-row. 1750
There was no other places of worship.

This introduction may be closed with a few words explanatory of the costume of the period. The dress of the upper and middle classes being then, as now, a model for those beneath, may be regarded as sufficiently indicative of the prevailing styles. Ladies were attired in stiff stays, tightly laced over the stomacher, and long in the waist, causing the upper portion of the figure to resemble the letter V. The thinness of the waist appeared still more striking by the sudden fullness of the gown, occasioned by the hooped petticoat. A close head-dress, and shoes with high heels of divers colours, completed the *ensemble*. Gentlemen were much more gay in their apparel than would now be thought consistent with good taste. Claret-coloured cloths were deemed very handsome in the circles of high fashion, and suits of light blue, with silver button-holes and silver garters at the knees, were quite in the mode. Perukes, of light grey human hair, were worn; dark hair was of no estimation whatever. A large cocked hat, called "the Kevenhuller," about six inches broad in the brim, a square-cut coat, and a long-flapped waistcoat, and shoe-buckles of an enormous size, were the common peculiarities.

August 23.—A severe shock of an earthquake was felt in Nottingham and the surrounding district, about 7 a.m. Great alarm, but not much damage, was the result. The day was remarkably fine, both before and after the shock.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman John Burton elected Mayor.

November 17.—David Love, an individual whose eccentricities earned him a wide-spread notoriety, was born this day at Torriburn, on the Forth, in Scotland. He was brought up as a miner, in the Dundonald collieries, Curlross, but enlisted in the Duke of Buccleugh's Regiment of South Fencibles. Possessing, however, a facility in extemporising rhymes, he abandoned sterner occupation, and gained his living through a long course of years, principally in Nottingham, by seizing upon the local topic of the hour, and making it the subject of a ballad or string of rhymes, "all," as he was accustomed to inform his street auditories, when he had a number of printed copies for disposal, "of his own composing." These compositions were very numerous, and, in spite of their lack of talent, enjoyed at times great popularity. The following specimen is descriptive of the marriage of his third wife, at St. Mary's Church, in 1810 :—

When first to Nottingham I came,
I found it was a town of fame;
This place I lov'd exceding well,
As here I many books did sell.

• • • • •
Hundreds of folks in the church-yard,
All waiting for our coming there;
This funny wedding all to see,
Surprised our wedding folks and me.

1750

We stopped at the Old Angel inn,
 And gave to her a glass of gin;
 For doing so, none could me blame,
 I thought it might drive out her shame.
 Through the church-yard we went along,
 But hardly could get for the throng.
 While people cramm'd and bawl'd so loud,
 We lost our "father" in the crowd;
 But when we came, the door was shut;
 The bride next to it I did put,—
 And the short time we here did stand,
 I on the door did lay each hand;
 And thus I did my charmer guard,
 While people cramm'd in the church-yard.
 Behind me, people stood so thick,
 Revenge on them I left some token,
 For I did think their shins were broken.
 The door opened quick, and they went in,
 While some did laugh, and some did grin.
 Before the parson we did go,—
 The bride did speak so very low,
 To her I said, (but did not shout,
 The words were only two,)—"peak out."

On purpose to give us a shout,—
 All waiting for our coming out,
 For round the church they walk'd about,
 Thinking with us to get some fun,
 People did wait till all was done,
 But truly we deceived them so.
 One at a time did homeward go,
 Behind each other a short space,—
 They did not see her dress nor face;
 Thus we in quietness home all went,
 With cheerfulness the day I spent.

"Old David," as he was familiarly called, published his own "Life, Adventures, and Experience," and hawking the book himself as a means of living, it went through five large editions. He died in Nottingham, on the 12th of June, 1827.

1751.

1751

February 11.—William Parsons, eldest son of Sir William Parsons, Bart., of Short-hill, Nottingham, was executed at Tyburn, for returning from transportation. This misguided man was born in 1717, and was at Eton nine years, where it was intended he should qualify himself for one of the Universities; but his progress in learning being very inconsiderable, and being detected in robbing a bookseller's shop, Sir William determined to send him to sea, as a means of saving him from destruction. He was accordingly appointed midshipman on board a man of war, lying at Spithead, under sailing orders for Jamaica, there to be stationed for three years. Disliking the monotony of a sailor's life in the West Indies, he found means to desert, and returned home. His conduct becoming again outrageous, he was shipped to Newfoundland, as midshipman on board the Romney. On his return, he learnt, with infinite mortification, that the Duchess of Northumberland, to whom he was related, had revoked a will made in his favour, and bequeathed to his sister a very considerable legacy,

which he expected to enjoy ; and repulsed by his friends, who would not receive him into their houses, he was soon placed in distressed circumstances. In this emergency, he induced a gentleman named Bailey to interest himself in his behalf, and through his perseverance, a partial reconciliation between father and son was at length effected. In a short time, he was persuaded to accept an appointment in Africa, under the governor of James's Fort, on the river Gambia, where he stayed about six months, and then escaped, notwithstanding the very strict precautions taken by Governor Arfleur to prevent his return to England. Extreme destitution again seized him, and at one time he seriously meditated suicide. Fortune however, once more befriended him, and in the twenty-third year of his age, he was successful in contracting a matrimonial alliance with a young lady of good property, near London. He then entered the army, as an Ensign in the 34th Regiment of Foot, and was in Flanders on active service, but the extravagant manner in which he lived, and the loss of large sums of money in gambling, compelled him to throw up his commission, and to return a third time to his country a beggar and a vagabond. After a variety of futher adventures and reverses, at home and abroad, being at one time a captain of marines on board a privateer, and at another a forger of bills in Cork and London, he was apprehended on a charge of fraud, and at the following Rochester assizes was sentenced to seven years transportation. He was accordingly sent to Maryland, in America, then a penal settlement, with a hundred and seventy other convicts (fifty of whom died on the passage), and landed at Annapolis. Having remained in a state of slavery about seven weeks, he obtained his freedom through the intercession of a colonist who had known his family in England, and was received into the house of his benefactor in a most hospitable manner. This kindness he requited by stealing his friend's horse and turning highwayman : with part of the proceeds of his robberies, he procured a passage home again. Thoroughly reckless of consequences, he took to the road as a means of subsistence, and committed numerous robberies. While engaged in an expedition of this nature he was recognised by the gentleman who had prosecuted him at Rochester, and was followed by him to Hounslow, and there called upon to surrender. Parsons dismounted, and earnestly entreated that the gentleman and his companion would permit him to speak to them in private, to which they consented ; and the parties being introduced to a room at an inn, Parsons delivered up his pistols, which were loaded and primed, and supplicated for mercy in the most pathetic terms. In all probability he would have been permitted to escape, had not the landlord advised that he should be detained, as he conceived him to very nearly answer the description of a highwayman by whom the roads in that part of the country had long been infested. At the following assizes, Parsons was arraigned for returning from transportation before the expiration of the term of his sentence, and was ordered to

1751 be hung. His distressed father and wife used all their interest in his favour, but their efforts to procure a reversal of his sentence were in vain. His last moments were spent in penitence and devotional exercises.

September 29.—Alderman Henry Butler elected Mayor. The mode of election at this period, and many years afterwards, was as follows:—On the 14th of August, at a “hall” called for the purpose, an alderman was nominated by a majority of votes, and on the 29th September following, was duly installed into office. Early in the morning of the latter day, the aldermen, and all who were upon “the clothing,” i.e., all who had served the office of chamberlain or sheriff, assembled at the ex-Mayor’s house, who entertained them at breakfast. At about ten o’clock, a procession was formed in full corporate costume, the waits (in scarlet cloaks, laced with silver) playing at the head, and marched to St. Mary’s church, where a sermon was preached for the occasion by one of the ministers of the three parishes, who took their turn as chaplains to the Corporation, and received annually a free gift of £20 by the hands of the Chamberlain. At the close of divine service the whole body moved to the vestry, where the ex-Mayor (or rather, the Mayor whose term of office was on the point of expiration) seated himself in an arm-chair, at a table covered with black cloth, with the mace upon it, covered with rosemary and sprigs of bay, the mace being, as it was termed, “buried.” The retiring functionary then introduced the party nominated as his successor, and after his full election, took up the mace, kissed it, and handed it to him, with a suitable compliment. The new Mayor then proposed two persons as sheriffs, and two as chamberlains, and these having also gone through the votes of “the clothing,” the Mayor and the rest proceeded to the chancel, when the senior Coroner administered the oath to his worship, and the Town Clerk to the Sheriffs and Chamberlains. Reforming in procession as before, and attended by such gentlemen and tradesmen as had been invited by the new officials, they marched to the Weekday-cross, from which the Town Clerk proclaimed the Mayor and Sheriffs, and thence to the Exchange Rooms, to close the day in festivity and good fellowship. On the ensuing market-day the proclamation was again made from the Malt-cross.

The “Monday-cross,” erected in St. Peter’s-square in 1751, which consisted of four pillars, roofed and walled in, and served as a receptacle for the parish fire engine, was taken down in 1787, and a single column of stone, railed round, and bearing four lamps, erected in its place. This column was massive and well proportioned, about twenty feet in height, and was known as “The Obelisk.” It was intended as an ornament to cover the entrance to the main sewer of that part of the town, and was upon the whole a very creditable erection. Soon after the public introduction of gas, in 1819, a very large lamp was placed upon the summit of the obelisk, and it was lit by means of an iron pipe, so

perforated from bottom to top that when the gas was turned on and the lamplighter applied his flambeau the flame rapidly ascended the column and communicated with the four burners above. The obelisk was removed in May, 1836. 1751

Publication of *Deering's History of Nottingham*.—The author, Charles Deering, M.D., was a native of Germany, and obtained his diploma in Holland, at the Leyden University. Though professedly master of nine languages, and otherwise highly accomplished, his course through life seems to have been beset with difficulties. Leaving the Continent for London, he was appointed secretary to the British embassy to the court of Russia. On his return, he settled in Nottingham, as a regular medical practitioner. An unfortunate ascerbity of temper, however, had an injurious effect on his practice, which was at first considerable, and reduced him to poverty. In the hour of his extremity, he applied to J. Plumtre, Esq., for assistance to enable him to write a history of the town, and in this gentleman he found both a friend and a patron, for he not only countenanced the undertaking, but furnished the principal materials for that portion of it devoted to antiquities. Unhappily, Deering died ere the work was completed, on the 25th of February, 1749, in a chamber over a shop on the south side of St. Peter's-square [pulled down during the formation of Albert-street]. His circumstances were so reduced, that the sale of his effects would not furnish the means for his interment, which induced the Corporation, as a public body, to offer their services to pay this last tribute to departed talent; but Mr. Ayscough, printer, and Mr. Willington, druggist, administered to his effects, seized upon his manuscript, and buried him: they afterwards published his history. Deering also wrote a treatise on the small-pox, then a most virulent and fatal disorder, and a very valuable work, entitled *A Catalogue of Plants growing about Nottingham*; the former was printed in 1737, and the latter in 1738. It is related, as an instance of his infirmity of temper, that a lady of the name of Turner, passing through the town, and hearing of the Doctor's continued illness and deep poverty, paid him a visit at his lodgings, and that, after conversing with him some time, she left him half-a-guinea, by the mistress of the house. When the latter produced the gift, and told him whence it came, he exclaimed, it is said, "If you had stabbed me to the heart I should have thanked you, but this I cannot bear!"

1752.

March 25.—An Act of Parliament was passed for the execution of murderers one day after receiving sentence, and ordering their bodies to be delivered to the surgeons for dissection. This law continued in force up to 1834. It was, however, often rendered less severe, by the judge pronouncing sentence on a Friday, and as the law required one clear day (which would be Saturday), and Sunday being considered as a *dies non*, the execution would be deferred to Monday. 1752

1752

March 26.—Death of Thomas Booth, the "*Old Tom Booth*" of deer stealing notoriety, aged 75 years. The exploits of this individual were, for many years after his decease, a never-failing subject of conversational interest in public-house circles: no modern deer-stealer was anything like so popular. Thorsby relates one exploit as follows:—"In Nottingham Park, at one time, was a favourite fine deer, a chief ranger, which Tom and his wily companions had often cast their eyes on; but how to deceive the keeper while they killed it was a task of difficulty. The night however in which they accomplished their purpose, whether by any settled plan or not is not known, they found the keeper at watch, as usual, in a certain place in the park. One of them therefore went to an opposite direction in the park, and fired his gun to make the keeper believe he had shot a deer; upon which away goes the keeper, in haste, to the spot, which was at a very considerable distance from the place where the favourite deer was, and near which Tom Booth was skulking. Tom, waiting a proper time, when he thought the keeper at a sufficient distance for accomplishing his purpose, fired and killed the deer, and dragged it through the river Leen undiscovered." Booth was a stout man, and by trade a whitesmith. The stone marking the place of his interment is still in good preservation, and stands in St. Nicholas's burial-ground, against the southern wall of the church: it bears the following inscription:—

Here lies a marksman, who with art and skill,
When young and strong, fat bucks and does did kill.
Now conquered by grim Death, (go, reader, tell it!)
He's now took leave of powder, gun, and pellet.
A fatal dart, which in the dark did fly,
Has laid him down, among the dead to lie.
If any want to know the poor slave's name,
'Tis Old Tom Booth,—ne'er ask from whence he came.
He's hither sent; and surely such another,
Ne'er issued from the belly of a mother.

Old Tom was so highly pleased with the epitaph, which was made before his death, that he had it engraved on the stone some months previous to its service being required. In addition to the epitaph itself, the head-stone was made to include Booth's name, &c., and also that of his wife, blank places being left in each case for the age and time of death: Booth's compartment of the stone was in due course properly filled up, but the widow, disliking the exhibition of her name on a tombstone while living, resolved that such stone should never indicate her resting-place when dead: she accordingly left an injunction that her body be interred elsewhere, and the inscription is incomplete to this day.

April 4.—Execution of James Wogden, commonly called "*Innocent Jemmy*," for murdering Edward Whatman, near Ollerton. He was hung on Gallows-hill, at the top of Mansfield-road. During his trial, Wogden kept constantly exclaiming, "I am innocent Jemmy! I am innocent Jemmy!" On arriving at Gallows-hill, he lay down very stubbornly in the bottom of the cart, nor would he

rise, although *Jack Ketch* exhausted every polite compliment to entice him. The dread functionary was consequently necessitated to drag him up by means of a halter—no very easy task, as Jemmy weighed fully fifteen stone. To obtain a ten minutes' respite, he at last volunteered a confession. He acknowledged cutting the throat of Whatman, while his father and brother held him securely; the trio then possessed themselves of his money. Wogden's was the first execution after the passing of the Act of Parliament which provided for the carrying out of the sentence of death on murderers one day after receiving it, and the giving up of their bodies for dissection. The body of this malefactor was dissected and publicly exposed at the County Hall, High-pavement.

September 3.—Commencement of the Gregorian, or "New style." This day was thus, by Act of Parliament, reckoned the 14th, the calendar having, by a gradual process, become wrong eleven days, owing to an incorrect computation of the exact period of the earth's revolution round the sun. The Act also provided that the year should in future begin on the 1st of January, instead of, as heretofore, the 25th day of March.

September 29.—Alderman James Huthwaite elected Mayor.

October 2.—In consequence of the alteration of the "style" of the calendar, no Goose Fair was held. An order of hall was passed, directing the Chamberlains to pay the Sheriffs their losses arising from the alteration of the "style."

October 14.—A number of the journeymen framework-knitters, being anxious to aid the exertions of the Framework-knitters' Company,* to regulate the trade, publish an address, in which they urge the hands "notwithstanding the efforts of their employers, to come forward to the Court which would be held specially, on the 26th of October, at the Crown Inn, on the Long-

* The Framework-knitters' Company was established in 1663, under a Charter granted by Charles II. It was empowered to search for fraudulent frames, machines, or goods, to seize all frames attempted to be exported, and to make such laws and regulations as the master, wardens, and assistants might think proper for the government of the Society, the reformation of abuses, or the prevention of fraudulent work, with a right of search in the daytime, and infliction and levying of fines by distress and sale, or otherwise. It was provided, however, that no regulation of the Company should be "repugnant to the laws of the realm." The master, wardens, clerks, assistants, and deputies were the only parties upon whom the Charter conferred a Parliamentary vote; and the assistants at the end of forty years, were composed partly of framework-knitters, and partly of persons who had bought their livery for the sake of the vote. Though their income was great from the fees arising from the registering of apprentices, enrolling freemen of their company, the levying of fines, and the premiums for the sale of freedoms and of the livery, they were restricted from holding more than £100 a year. The people in those days were extremely fond of pomp and show. The time for grand display by the chartered trade companies was at the installation of each Lord Mayor of London, on the 9th of November, when they went in gorgeous procession through the streets of the City to Blackfriars-bridge, whence they embarked on the water to Westminster-hall, where the Lord Mayor took his oath of office before the Barons of the Exchequer. Some of the Companies in London, particularly the Goldsmiths, were immensely rich. The Framework-knitters' Company soon fell into all their pomp. A gilt barge was built, rowed by twenty watermen in splendid liveries, accompanied by a numerous band of musicians, and adorned with magnificent flags, having the arms of the Company emblazoned, which are, a representation of the stocking-frame without the wood-work, having the work on the frame divided at the heel. The supporters are, a clergyman, dressed in the Cambridge habit, and a woman habited in the costume of 1866. The motto is "Speed, strength, and truth united." A hall was built in Redcross-street, wherein to transact the business of the Company, and they scarcely ever met in it without having a sumptuous feast. This pagantry and extravagance involving a necessity for large sums of money, led, as will be seen, to attempts at extortion, and the ultimate overthrow of the Company.

1752 row, and form themselves into a community ; and not to listen to their employers, who pretended to be the workmen's friends ;" and assure them, "they need not be discouraged—that the Court would not take quarterage from the poor men, who (though but threepence a quarter,) were not able to pay it, as, from their low rate of wages, they could hardly get bread"—and that "they only meant to call upon those who kept frames and had apprentices." They also urged them "to be of one mind for the general good, and heartily join with one voice, to proclaim the Court our protection—and no more colts.* This appeal was unsuccessful. A great portion of the framework-knitters having learnt their wives and daughters to work in the frame, or having themselves acquired the art without a legal apprenticeship, were apprehensive of the interference of the officials, should the bye-laws of the Company be brought into operation ; consequently, few applied for admission. The Company's deputies soon became discouraged, and after holding but four Court-days, at intervals of a month each, they came to the resolution to suspend their sittings, until the Company entered upon a suit-at-law against some non-admitted framework-knitter, to test the validity of their powers. While taking measures for this purpose, the Company met with a formidable opposition, in the shape of a host of petitions to Parliament, complaining of the arbitrary nature of their rules and regulations. Among these were petitions from Nottingham, Godalming, Whitley, and other places. That from Nottingham purported to come from persons employed in the business of framework-knitting, in behalf of themselves and all others employed in the same trade, complaining that the Company of the Framework-knitters of the city of London had made certain bye-laws *against all reason*, and contrary to the general liberty of the subjects of Great Britain ; that they had invested themselves with the power of laying such taxes upon them as might greatly assist them in carrying into execution the pernicious schemes of extending their jurisdiction over the whole kingdom, and establishing in themselves a power to search the premises of all persons using the said mystery ; and, moreover, endeavouring to monopolize the lending of frames for hire : and that these oppressions under which the manufacturers laboured, they feared would greatly affect the trade of the kingdom, unless the poor manufacturers met with the protection and assistance of the House, which relief they prayed might be afforded them. The House ordered the petitions to be referred to a select committee. A counter petition was presented by the Company, praying to be heard by themselves or counsel, and also another from Nottingham, signed by the framework-knitters favourable to their pretensions. The committee, after possessing themselves of the books and papers of the Company, heard the complaints of the petitioners, and examined several witnesses.

* Those who had not served a legal apprenticeship.

1753.

1753

April 13.—The Select Committee of the House of Commons, reported "that the several persons employed in framework-knitting, in the town of Nottingham, who have petitioned against the Company of Framework-knitters, have fully proved the allegations of their petition; that it is the opinion of the Committee that the bye-laws of the Company are injurious and vexatious to the manufacturers, and tend to the discouragement of industry, and to the decay of the said manufacture; that many of the said bye-laws are illegal, and contrary to the liberty of the subject—that the powers granted by the Charter are hurtful to the trade, and tend to a monopoly; and that the carrying on vexatious prosecutions against any person, male or female, for exercising the said art or mystery, is hurtful to the manufacturer, and destructive to the trade of the kingdom."

April 19.—A Committee of the whole House agreed to the substance of the foregoing report. This had a signal effect: the Company at once lost all hope of enforcing their authority in the courts of law, and abandoned the whole of their pending suits; and from this period they do not appear to have exercised any control over the trade, but existed merely as a London chartered company. The proceedings of the Commons having thus effectually annihilated the Company as regulators of the trade, the practice of taking almost an unlimited number of apprentices, both boys and girls, as well as of teaching the "mystery" to great numbers of young agricultural labourers, was universally resorted to throughout the country.

June 8.—The Rev. John Wesley, M.A., preached from the Malt-cross. The corresponding entry in his Journal, speaks very favourably of the result of his labours. The date of the introduction of Methodism into Nottingham is, however, anterior to this visit by Mr. Wesley, for in 1740, Mr. Howe, one of Wesley's co-labourers, encountered much opposition whilst preaching in the Market-place. Mr. Wesley's first visit was in 1741. In 1743, he and his brother, the Rev. Charles Wesley, preached in the town several times, and Nottingham continued to be favoured with his occasional ministrations up to about the time of his death, the 2nd of March, 1791.

The difficulties encountered by the first Methodist preachers seem to partake more of the properties of romance than of simple matter of fact. The following narrations of facts give us, while they detail some of the difficulties to which we allude, a curious insight into the state of the popular mind:—

The celebrated John Nelson preached from the Malt-cross, in 1743, and states in his autobiography, that "it being a rejoicing day, they had bonfires in the Market-place, and some came with squibs to disturb me as I was preaching. One of them threw a squib on fire close to my heels, but a woman kicked it away; the

1744 man caught it up again to throw at me, but it burst in his hand, and he went away shaking his head. Another came on the low side of the Cross, with a design to throw one in my face; but I did not turn my face that way as soon as he expected, so that burst in his own hand. As soon as I had done, a sergeant of the army came to me with tears in his eyes, and said, 'In the presence of God and all this people I beg your pardon; for I came on purpose to mob you, but when I could get no one to assist me, I stood to hear you, and am convinced of the deplorable state my soul was in, and I believe you are a servant of the living God.' He then embraced me and went away weeping."

The Rev. Charles Wesley records that being in Nottingham on the 6th of February, 1744, he found "the brethren violently driven from their place of meeting, pelted in the streets, &c., and mocked with vain promises of justice by the very men who underhand encourage the rioters."

On the succeeding day, Mr. C. Wesley adds, "I waked in great heaviness, which continued all day, for our poor suffering brethren, yet with strong confidence that the Lord will appear in their behalf. I joined the society at five in the morning, in fervent intercession for them; and in preaching, both administered and received comfort. I sent my humble thanks to the Mayor for his offer of assistance. He pities our brethren and would defend them; but who dares do justice to a Christian? We are content to wait for it till the great day of retribution. At the brethren's desire I began preaching in the Market-place. The holiday folk broke in among the hearers. I gave notice that I should preach at the Cross just by the Mayor's. In the way the mob assaulted us with dirt and stones, making us the filth and off-scouring of all things. My soul was caught up and kept in calm recollection. I knocked at the Mayor's door. He let me in himself, gave us good words, threatened the rabble, and led me to his front door, where the people were waiting. I walked up to the Cross, and called them to repent. They would not receive my testimony, were very outrageous, yet not permitted to hurt me. The Mayor at the same time passing by us laughing. Just such protection I expected. After fighting with wild beasts near half-an-hour I went down into the thickest of them, who started back, and left an open space to the Mayor's house. Mrs. Mayoress led me through the house with quiet courtesy and compassion. The mob pursued us with stones as before. J. Webb and I were strangers to the town, but went straight forward and entered a house prepared for us. The woman received us and shut the door, and spoke with authority to the mob, so that they began to melt away. We betook ourselves to prayer.

"February 8.—I cannot help observing from what passed yesterday, that we ought to wait upon God for direction when and where to preach much more than we do. * * *

What justice can be expected from the chief men of this place, if,

as I am informed, they are mostly Arian Presbyterians? I exhorted the brethren to continue in faith, and through much persecution to enter the kingdom. Four were missing; the rest, strengthened by their sufferings. I called at brother Sant's, and found him just brought home for dead. The mob had knocked him down, and would probably have murdered him but for a little child, who, being shut out of doors, alarmed the family by his cries. It was some time before he came to himself, having been struck on the temple by a large log of wood." 1744

These extracts and others that follow do not give us a very exalted opinion of the civic functionaries. A degrading subserviency to the blind passions of the mob, with no slight amount of duplicity, seem to have tinctured their conduct.

In the summer of 1745, the celebrated John Nelson came to the town. He writes, "As I was preaching a mob came into the house, and made a noise as if they had been in a cockpit, so my voice could not be heard of some time. When they were silent I began to speak, and one of them came behind me and filled my mouth with dirt out of the channel."

The same eminent pioneer of Methodism visited the town again the same year. "When I got to Nottingham," says Nelson, "I preached to a peaceable congregation. About half-an-hour after I had done, as I and four or five more were sitting by the fire, the constable, with a mob at his heels, came rushing into the house, and said, 'Where is the preacher?' I said, 'I am he, sir.' He replied, 'You must go with me before the Mayor.' I said, 'Where is your warrant?' He replied, 'My staff is my warrant. Come lads, help me, for I will make him go before the Mayor.' I said, 'I am not afraid to go before him; but it is your business to take up that swearer; you hear there is another that swears, and if you do not take them up, it is in my power to make you pay forty shillings for not doing your duty.' He regarded not what I said, but haled me away. When we had got almost to the Mayor's house, a gentleman-like man said, 'Constable, where are you going with him?' He said, 'To the Mayor.' He replied, 'Pray don't, for the Mayor* is their friend, and says that he will put anyone that disturbs them into the house of correction; therefore carry him before Alderman H———e,† and he will do him.' 'Then we must turn another way,' said he. But I said, 'I insist upon going before the Mayor.' But he replied, 'I'll make you go where I please.' I said, 'You told me you must carry me before the Mayor. I find you are a strange officer, to encourage swearing, and tell lies yourself.' Then the mob shouted and cried, 'Help us to guard the Methodist preacher to the house of correction.' By the time we got to the Alderman's house there were several hundreds gathered together; and when we came there he said, 'Whom have you brought, constable?' To me he said, 'I wonder you cannot stay in your own place; you might

* Mr. Henry Butler.

† Alderman Hornbuckle, most probably.

1745 be convinced by this time that the mob of Nottingham will never let you preach quietly in this town.' I replied, 'I beg pardon, sir, I did not know before now that this town was governed by a mob, for most towns are governed by magistrates.' He blushed and said, 'Do you think that we will protect Wesley and a pack of you? No, I believe you are the cause of all the commotions that have been in the land.*' I replied, 'Sir, can you prove that one man that is joined to us did assist the Pretender with either men, money, or arms?' He said, 'It hath been observed that there was always such a preaching, bawling people, before any judgment came upon the land.' I replied, 'That is the goodness of God towards the people for sending His messengers to warn them to repent.' * * * The constable said, 'Do you think we will take warning by such a fellow as you?' I said, 'If you will not you must feel the blow, for if there is not a reformation in the land God will pour out His judgment upon man and beast; therefore I warn you all to look to the rod, for it is appointed to them that disobey the gospel.' Then the Alderman said, 'So, so, you must not preach here; I verily believe you are a good man.' Then he said, 'Constable, I will not send this man to the house of correction. I think as you keep a public-house you may let him lie there to-night, for he is on his journey.' The constable said, 'I beg that he may not be at my house.' 'Well then,' said he, 'he may go to Mary White's where he came from.' I spoke a few more words to him, and wished him good night. He said, 'Mr. Nelson, I wish you well wherever you go.' When I got into the street I don't know but there might be a thousand people, but I saw not one that I knew; therefore I went and stood under a lamp that my acquaintances might see me. The Alderman came to the door and said to the constable, 'Take care of Mr. Nelson that no one molest him: see him safe to Mary White's.' The constable seemed much ashamed, and did as he was ordered. Then the man that advised him to carry me before the Alderman came to me and said, 'Thy nimble tongue has delivered thee this time.' I said, 'No sir, it is my God, who hath the hearts of all men in His hands.' When we got to Mary White's we sung a hymn, and gave praise to God, and prayed for our enemies, and recommended each other to God's care and protection; and we had a comfortable meeting at five the next morning."

The Rev. George Whitefield, Mr. Wesley's eloquent and popular colleague, had also laboured in Nottingham. He was here

* The alarm consequent on the recent abortive attempt of Charles Stuart on the throne of these realms, appears to have left a vivid impression on the mind of the Alderman. It is certain that the rapid progress of the Highlanders to Derby, and their propinquity to Nottingham, gave rise at the time to great uneasiness and dismay. Many of the wealthy inhabitants converted a part of their securities into gold, which, with their plate and valuables, they buried in the earth, or secreted in the deep wells that still remain (though for the most part covered up) in various parts of the town. Even in London, on the day the tidings arrived of the Young Pretender having reached Derby, and being between the army of the Duke of Cumberland and the capital, there was a considerable panic, and the consternation was so great as to obtain for that day the name of "Black Friday." Nottingham furnished many recruits for the Duke of Kingston's Regiment of Light Horse, who distinguished themselves on the field of Culloden, especially three butchers, said to have killed fourteen of the enemy.

in November, 1749, and again in May, 1750. On the latter 1753 occasion, he writes :—At Nottingham, several came to me inquiring what they should do to be saved. I preached there four times. One evening, Lord S———and several gentlemen were present, and behaved with great decency. Many thousands attended."

September 29.—Alderman Thomas Langford elected Mayor.

Two malefactors were hung this year on Gallows-hill—Woolston Roberts and William Sandham. The former was a drummer in the army, and the other, his pot companion. They induced a man from Arnold to take a shilling for enlistment money, though he was unfit for service, in hope of obtaining his "smart." The man however went away towards home without either paying the 20s., or returning the one which he had taken. They followed and stopped him in Fox-lane, and an altercation ensued, succeeded by a scuffle, in which Roberts drew his hanger, and cut off one of the man's little fingers. They were tried for cutting and maiming, and being found guilty, were executed.

An important change in the law of marriage was effected this year by the Legislature. Up to this period the law was so loose that all kinds of hurried and clandestine unions could be formed in any part of England, with greater facility than they afterwards were at Gretna Green. No notice or publication of banns was required, and any parson might perform the ceremony, at any time, or in any place, without consent of parents or any other preliminary condition whatsoever. It was stated in Parliament, without contradiction, that the worst or the most needy of the clergy would often forward the most rash and disgraceful marriages, sometimes even in poor-houses, public-houses, or jails, for the sake of the most paltry fee, often not more than two shillings.

At an enumeration made at this period, the total number of stocking-frames in England and Wales was found to be 14,000, thus located: in London, 1,000; Surrey, 350; Nottingham, 1,500; Leceister, 1,000; Derby, 200; Dublin, 500; Cork, 200; Belfast, 100; scattered about in villages, &c., in the Midland Counties, 7,300; in other counties, 750.

The enumerations of frames at different periods show the following aggregate numbers existing :—

In 1669 ... 660	In 1821 ... 29,590
In 1714 ... 8,000	In 1823 ... 33,000
In 1753 ... 14,000	In 1844 ... 48,482
In 1782 ... 20,000	

1754.

March 6.—Death of Mr. Pelham, the Prime Minister. He 1754 was succeeded by his brother, the Duke of Newcastle. A dissolution of Parliament was the consequence.

1754

April 20.—The poll at the Nottingham election closed as follows:—

For the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Howe ...	980 votes.
Sir Willoughby Aston, Bart.	924
John Plumptre, Esq.	915

Majority..... 9

Though the population at this period is supposed to have been not more than about 11,000, yet 1,858 voters entered their names on the poll-sheets, of whom 1,713 were burgesses, and 145 freeholders. Thus about 1 in 6 of the total population, including men, women, and children, imbeciles, paupers, and criminals, actually voted for Members of Parliament,—a much larger proportion than at subsequent contests. The total number of burgesses is supposed to have been 1,757. Lord Howe and John Plumptre, Esq., stood in the Whig or Orange interest; and Sir Willoughby Aston in the Tory or Jacobite. It must, however, be understood that Mr. Plumptre had lost the confidence of many of his Whig friends by having recently accepted an office under Government. But relying on his great local influence, he not only thought of regaining his seat, but of bringing in Sir W. Aston likewise. His apparent defection induced many of his former supporters to so record their votes as to place Sir W. Aston second on the list, and consequently exclude Mr. Plumptre. The Rev. George Wakefield, M.A., the rector of St. Nicholas's, who had been made an honorary burgess by the Corporation, voted contrary to the Corporate interest. His share of the £60 which the Corporation gave annually to the incumbents of the three parishes was consequently withheld the three following years.

The Right Hon. Lord Robert Sutton and John Thornhaugh, Esq., were elected to represent the County. Mr. Thornhaugh had the good fortune to have a handsome estate left to him for life, on condition of his assuming the name of Hewitt. It was so given by his godfather, Sir Thomas Hewitt, and was situated at Shireoaks. He succeeded to the estate in 1756, on the death of Lady Hewitt, and held it till his decease in 1787. He died at his house at Richmond, in Surrey, and Shireoaks returned to the Hewitt family. He was the last male descendant in a direct line of the renowned Colonel Thornhaugh. The family mansion in Nottingham was in that part of Stoney-street known as St. Mary's-hill.

July 18.—The chapel on the High-pavement, Nottingham, was registered for the use of Protestant Dissenters (Presbyterians, who espoused the doctrines of the Arian school of divinity). The persons certifying were, the Rev. Samuel Eaton, D.D., Matthew Immyns, Samuel Fellows, John Fellows, James Huthwaite, jun., and Robert Seagrave.

On the same day, the chapel in Castle-gate was registered for public worship for Protestant Dissenters (Independents). The names of the persons certifying to the uses of the building were,

John Sherbrooke, Ichabod Wright, Benjamin Lomas, John Wright, 1754
Andrew Hornbuckle, and Samuel Newham.

September 29.—Alderman William Trigge elected Mayor. Alderman Trigge served the office of Mayor five times: viz., in 1730, 1737, 1742, 1748, and 1754. He lived in a large house, of the Norman style of architecture, situated in High-street, on the site of the house and shop at present in the possession of Mr. Samuel Fox Armitage, grocer. The mansion was then placed back from the street, having a paved court-yard in front, divided from the street by a lofty palisading, composed of that curious and richly wrought iron-work for which Nottingham was once so famous, but which has now nearly disappeared from amongst us. Two or three formally trimmed elms overtopped the tall railing, and gave to the mansion of the wealthiest alderman Nottingham ever possessed (together with its large ornamental porch, and massive stone pediment and decorations), a very stately appearance, as the spectator approached it from Cheapside, or surveyed it from the steps of the old Hen Cross. In accordance with the customs of that day, the worthy Alderman, in his suit of plum-coloured velvet, with diamond knee and large silver shoe-buckles, and his lady in a mantilla of rich brocade, with hooped petticoat, and toupeed head-dress, were wont to sit in their high-backed carved chairs in the ample porch of the house, for two or three hours every afternoon, when the weather would permit, conversing with their children or friends; forming a striking and picturesque contrast with the present day, both as respects the appearance of the house and the manners of its inmates. Mr. Alderman Trigge was blessed with but two children; a son, who died early in manhood (and who resided at Wilford, in a mansion on the site of the house at present occupied by H. Smith, Esq.), and a daughter, of rare beauty and endowments; upon whom, the Alderman, in a spirit of enlightened foresight, bestowed an education equal to that enjoyed by almost the first class ladies in this country. The result of this combination of beauty and amiability with high and lady-like attainments was, that Miss Trigge received an offer of marriage in her 22nd year, from an officer of high standing in the King's service, who had acquired, in addition to his patrimonial estates, a large accession of fortune by a long residence in India. As was to be expected, Colonel Benton's high standing in society, united to his generous and manly character, obtained for his suit a favourable reception both from Miss Trigge and the worthy Alderman her father; and after a courtship of a few months the day was appointed for the marriage to take place. But a dark cloud suddenly arose, which enveloped the unfolding scene of happiness in gloom and sorrow. The Colonel contracted a severe cold during a shooting excursion in Yorkshire, which superinduced a fever of so violent a character as to terminate his existence on the very day appointed for the celebration of the nuptial ceremony. He, however, (having no near relations,) testified his affection for

- 1754 his betrothed bride, by leaving her the bulk of his fortune, together with an elegant new carriage, which he requested might be used by her on her future wedding-day, should she live to become the wife of another. This distressing event caused the amiable young lady deep and heartfelt sorrow. For three or four years she resolutely refused all overtures of marriage, from whatever quarter, although proposals were made to her by several gentlemen of rank and fashion, whose advances were seconded by her father and friends, as highly advantageous and desirable. At length, however, while on a visit to Bath, Miss Trigge attracted the attention of Thomas, Lord Lyttleton, son of the elegant writer of the life of St. Paul, the patron of the poet Thomson, and a friend of most of the literary characters of the day. After a suitable time, during which his lordship was unremitting in his attentions to the Alderman's daughter, the union was consummated. As a proof of the great wealth of Mr. Trigge, it may be mentioned that he gave £30,000 down on her wedding-day, as a marriage portion, besides bequeathing her £50,000 more at his decease; which, together with her own portion left to her by Colonel Benton, made her one of the wealthiest untitled ladies in the land. The wedding-day of Miss Trigge was long remembered in Nottingham, and formed the theme of many an "old wife's" story, when descanting on the events and pleasures of her by-gone days. The crowds which lined the streets, the splendour of the liveries, the tasteful and richly ornamented equipages, the true love-knots and snowy rosettes which adorned the coats of the men and the bosoms and tresses of the maidens, the ribands and the silken streamers that waved and floated upon the air, which seemed as if filled with a cloud of milk-white doves;—all this show and bravery, with the garlands and flowers which adorned the old Cross in front of the worthy burgher's house, the gallant bearing and rich attire of the noble bridegroom, as he handed his beauteous bride into his carriage; her rich stomacher, glittering with diamonds; her head-dress, nodding beneath the weight of its ornaments; and her superb satin petticoat, on which the richer hues of the rainbow vied with the fresh and more delicate tints of spring; these were beheld with the delight and enthusiasm which belonged peculiarly to those days of unsophisticated feeling. We must not omit to mention that the carriage of Colonel Benton, according to his dying wishes, formed a conspicuous object in the *cortege*. It was drawn by four horses, caparisoned in black morocco harness richly mounted with silver ornaments; the seat of the coachman, who was in mourning habiliments, was covered with a deep cloth of black velvet edged with a full and massive silver fringe, and decorated with the armourial bearings of the Colonel's family. As this singular part of the wedding procession passed sedately and tenantless along the streets, it was observed that many, many eyes were suffused with tears, which were not accustomed to show this mark of woman's weakness, and the effect was similar to that produced at an

Egyptian festival by the introduction of a skeleton at the well furnished and glittering board, mirth was sobered into decorum, and passion chastened into virtuous feeling. The happiness justly anticipated by Lady Lyttleton and her family from her union with the noble scion of an old and illustrious line—from the dazzling exchange of the old house in High-street for the magnificent mansion of Hagley, near Stourbridge, with its superb halls, pictures, and marbles, its far-famed fountains, groves, and gardens, was, through the premature death of her husband, but of few years duration. Lady Lyttleton lived to attain a very venerable age, witnessing the interment of four successive Lords Lyttleton, and seeing a fifth assume the title. 1754

October.—The quartern loaf, best quality, sold at 4d. In 1757, the price was 10d.; and in March, 1800, 1s. 5d.

The attention of Mr. Jedediah Strutt was drawn this year by his brother-in-law, who was a hosier residing in Derby, to some unsuccessful attempts that had been made to manufacture ribbed stockings upon the stocking frame. Being possessed of a natural inclination to the study of mechanics, he very readily agreed to assist in the attainment of this object. He bent his mind to the pursuit, made himself master of the mechanism of the frame, and at length perfectly succeeded in his endeavours. In 1758, he obtained, in conjunction with his brother-in-law, a patent for his improved machine for manufacturing the "Derby Patent Rib." He removed from Belper to Derby, where he established a very extensive concern, and quickly realized considerable property.

Jedediah Strutt was born about 1726, and began life as a farmer. The circumstance attending his career which demands the most extended notice was his connection with Arkwright, the inventor of cotton spinning, to whom reference will be made hereafter. When Messrs. Wright, bankers, of this town, withdrew their advances from Arkwright, they recommended him to apply to Mr. Strutt, whose practical knowledge would enable him to satisfy himself as to the feasibility of a manufacture the success of which had hitherto been very unpromising. Mr. Strutt at once discerned the sound principles of Arkwright's machine, and frankly declared his conviction that with some slight mechanical adjustments it would spin excellent hosiery yarn—the great desideratum in the cotton manufacture of that day, since the common hand-wheel yarn, as well as the jenny yarn of Hargreaves, was too soft and loose for making good stockings. Before Arkwright's invention, all the contrivances for spinning were imitations of the motion of finger and thumb in drawing out the thread from the wool: Arkwright's invention was to effect this, not at once, but by a series of operations. The wool being carded, and the filaments of the cotton laid regularly side by side, in the form of short ropes, the ends are joined together to form one long rope, which is passed between two rollers. On their drawing the rope forward, it is caught by another set of rollers, revolving as quickly

- 1754 again, so that it is reduced to half its thickness and proportionately increased in length. Several of these finer ones are then put together and drawn to the size of one, which operation corrects all the inequalities of the thread. This combination of threads drawn into the size of one is carried on through more delicate machinings till the requisite fineness is obtained. It is said that when Arkwright applied to Mr. Strutt the machines were much embarrassed by the fibres of the wool sticking to the roller. This circumstance greatly annoyed Mr. Arkwright, but Mr. Strutt engaged to remove the evil on condition of participating equally in the profits. They repaired to the mill, when Mr. Strutt having taken a lump of chalk out of his pocket and applied it to the roller, the defect was instantly removed. Mr. Strutt died in the year 1797, aged 70.

1755.

- 1755 Alderman John Hornbuckle (who served the office of Mayor in 1743 and 1749) resigned his gown and mayoralty, and was succeeded therein by Samuel Fellows, Gent., one of the Coroners.

East Retford Town Hall rebuilt this year, at the cost of £1,773 19s. 1d.

"Northern Lights," or *Aurora Borealis*, first recorded as having been seen in the neighbourhood of Nottingham.

1756.

- 1756 *February 22.*—Birth of Gilbert Wakefield, in the parsonage of St. Nicholas's, Nottingham, of which parish his father was rector. This eminent townsman was distinguished for his learning and virtues. His father, by the mother's side, was connected in blood with the noble family of the Russells; and his mother was of an ancient Nottingham family, and her grandfather, William Barke, proprietor of extensive tan-works in Narrow-marsh, and twice Mayor of the town, viz, in 1704 and 1712. At an early age the subject of this sketch was placed under the care of the Rev. Samuel Beardmore, at the Free School, Stoney-street, whence, at the age of nine, he was removed to a school at Wilford kept by the Rev. Isaac Pickthall. His facility in learning was such that it is understood he learnt the Greek tongue under the shade of the noble row of elms which formerly graced what was termed "the Deer's-walk" in Nottingham Park, extending from the Lenton foot road to the barracks, during the occasional rambles of one brief summer. In 1767, his father obtained the vicarage of Kingston-upon-Thames, and after a course of study at Richmond and Kingston, Gilbert matured his education at Cambridge University, where he took the degree of Bachelor of Arts. In 1778 he was ordained deacon, by Dr. Hinchliffe, Bishop of Peterborough,

and entered upon the curacy of Stockport, under the Rev. John Watson, the daughter of whose brother he afterwards married. Becoming dissatisfied with the doctrines of the Church of England, Mr. Wakefield resigned a curacy he held in Liverpool, to which place he had removed from Stockport, and became classical teacher in the academy at Warrington. In 1783, on the dissolution of the academy, he opened a school at Bramcote near Nottingham, where, three years subsequently, he was seized with a violent spasmodic affection in one of his shoulders, the acuteness of which, during two years rendered the constant use of opiates an indispensable preliminary to sleep. On the opening of a new Dissenting college at Hackney he was chosen classical instructor, and left Nottingham in the summer of 1790 to enter upon his fresh sphere of labour. In June, the following year, however, he left the institution, and wholly devoted his time to literary labours and the education of his children. Mr. Wakefield did not confine his labours to the arena of theological controversy: occasionally he came forth as a stern politician. He wrote several pamphlets against the Government of which no notice was taken; but in 1798 he published a letter to Dr. Watson, Bishop of Llandaff, on the subject of the war with France, which was couched in terms so offensive to the dominant party that the Attorney-General instituted a prosecution against him. Mr. Wakefield was sentenced to be imprisoned two years in Dorchester gaol, and at the end of that time to give security, himself in the sum of £500, and two others £250 each, for his good behaviour for five years. The severity of the sentence excited public sympathy in his favour, and the sum of £5,000, in the raising of which his native town took a part, was speedily subscribed and settled upon him as an annuity; in addition to which, a gentleman named Dodson left him £500. On the 4th June, 1801, Mr. Wakefield came out of prison, with a constitution so greatly impaired that on the 9th of September following he died at Hackney, in the 46th year of his age. Mr. Wakefield's literary productions were numerous. Those held in most repute are, *A Translation of the New Testament*, 2 vols.; *Tragediarum Græcarum Delectus*, 2 vols.; an edition of *Lucretius*, 3 vols.; *An Inquiry into the Opinions of the Christian Writers of the three first Centuries, concerning the Person of Jesus Christ*, 4 vols.; and the *Silva Critica*. His mortal remains were interred at Richmond, where also lie the bodies of his father (grandfather of the late Mr. Thomas Wakefield) and of his brother the Rev. Thomas Wakefield, B.A., thirty years the incumbent of that parish, who died on the 26th of November, 1806. The Rev. George Wakefield, the father, was eighteen years rector of St. Nicholas's, Nottingham, and nine years incumbent of Kingston and Richmond. He died on the 10th of February, 1776, aged 56 years.

This year also witnessed the birth of the Rev. Samuel Oliver, "the Masonic patriarch." Mr. Oliver was known and respected

1756 very extensively. In 1782 he married Elizabeth, the daughter of George Whitehead, Esq., of Bestwood Hall, by whom he had nine children. Through the interest of Lord Denbigh, in 1788, he was appointed to the head mastership of Lutterworth School, and entered on its duties with such zeal and earnestness that he soon filled his house with boarders, sometimes having upwards of fifty at once, and established a reputation for learning and scientific acquirements which was of great service to him through life. He was made a Freemason in the St. John's Lodge, at Leicester, about 1796, and paying great attention to the art and mystery attained a very distinguished position in the Order, and composed numerous Masonic songs. Retiring from public life Mr. Oliver soon afterwards returned to Gotham, in this county, as the curate of that place and Ruddington; whence however he removed to Whaplode in 1801, where he remained forty-two years, preaching three times every Sunday. On the death of the vicar of the parish in 1842, he was removed from the curacy, without the least pecuniary compensation, at the advanced age of 84 years. Happily a few months afterwards the venerable patriarch was inducted to the rectory of Lambley, a comfortable retreat for his declining days. He died on the 9th of August, 1847.

May 18.—War declared against France. In the royal declaration the grounds of hostilities were alleged to be the encroachments of the French on the Ohio and in Nova Scotia, and the invasion of Minorca. This war lasted seven years.

June 20.—One hundred and thirty-three British subjects perished for want of fresh air in the Black Hole at Calcutta.

September 29.—Alderman John Burton elected Mayor.

Nov. 11.—The Duke of Newcastle resigned the office of Premier.

The machine known as "the tuck presser" came into use in the Nottingham trade about this date. The tuck presser consists merely of a thin bar of iron attached by screws to "the frame-presser" so as to admit of its being moved *to* and *fro*, the space of one, two, or three needles, according to the pattern required, there being grooves cut in the lower edge to admit of the needle or needles passing up during the pressing motion on which the tuck-loops are wrought, while the teeth press down the other needle-beards to admit of the stitches passing over the needle-heads; and thus by moving it *this* way one course and *that* way another, while differently coloured threads are worked, a diversity of shades is produced in a vertical line, which gives to the stocking the appearance of coloured ribs. This description of stocking has long gone out of the market, and the invention itself, even in the branches to which it could yet be applied, has been nearly superseded by "the jack machine." The honour of having originated the tuck-presser has been variously contested. The more commonly received opinion is that a native of Dublin was the inventor, though some ascribe it to a French refugee, and others to "the *grand monarque*" himself, Louis XIV. of France.

Nottingham can claim a poet, who *flourished* at this period, 1756 as a framework-knitter. His name was William Calvert, and though now nearly forgotten, he stood forth in honourable distinction from the unlettered herd by which he was encompassed in the daily walks of life. The accompanying specimen of his literary powers, hitherto unpublished, and written in 1756, is from the original manuscript in the compiler's possession :—

"Attend my sons, and hear your father tell
A tale of old which he remembers well,
Of Thornhaugh's death, of Langdale's shameful fight,
Of Nottingham heroes, and of Preston fight.
A tale your grandsire knew, and oft would say,
'I did my duty on that bloody day.'
For he had fought through all the civil wars,
In Freedom's army, and could show his scars.*

In Preston field, the eager ground to gain,
The Nottingham Horse was first upon the plain;
On victory intent, by gallant Thornhaugh led,
A chief who oft had conquered at their head,—
Their rights maintained by every generous plan,
Being Freedom's champion, and the friend of man.
He forward rode, and led the raging war,
More fierce than Mars in his destructive car;
His brow extended, yet beset with care,
His eyes portentous flashed with thoughtful glare;
Stern were his looks, but yet did they unfold,
His soul's deep counsel, and his courage bold.
As if presaging he was doomed to bleed,
He sudden starts, and checks his fiery steed;
Ere blow was struck, with short and hasty breath,
He spoke these words prophetic of his death:

'Ye worthy soldiers all, for such ye be,
And such are all who fight for liberty,
Expand your souls with flames of martial fire,
And soon ye'll see the Scottish slaves retire;
Throw off the softer passions from your mind,
And leave each tender feeling far behind;
Fraught with the lion's rage, the field we'll scour,
And spread destruction like a burning shower.
If death we meet, let's cheerfully resign
That life but lent us by the Powers divine;
For he who lives to meet a glorious end,
Gives joy to heaven, and comfort to his friend;
Then fearless fight, and fearless live or fall,
For, long or short our day, Fate governs all.'

Thus spake the chief, wielding his blade around;
His sprightly charger trembled at the sound;
Then rushing forward headlong at the foe,
Their ranks he thinn'd by many a deadly blow.
Hamilton and Langdale, wondering at the feat,
Issued immediate orders for retreat;
Dismayed, discouraged, and depressed in mind,
The Scots fled from him as the thirsty hind.
He still pursued, and still led on the van,—
The sullen foe disheartened from his rear.
To cover the retreat, and save their rear,
From the destruction which was then so near,

* A descendant of Colonel Thornhaugh is noticed at page 32. The circumstances attending the gallant Colonel's death were thus related by Cromwell in a letter to Parliament :—
"That worthy gentleman, Colonel Thornhaugh, pressing too boldly, was slain, being run into the body, thigh, and head, by the enemy's lancers." 1648.

1756

A corps of Lancers had been ordered out,
 To form a front and hide the general rout.
 These Thornhaugh saw, and charged devoid of fear,
 And his bold heart received the pointed spear.
 Onward he rushed, but fainting from his wound.
 The younger Chadwick saved him from the ground.
 His troops sprang forward, with a dreadful cry,
 Leaving their chief among his friends to die.
 As a bold lion, lord of all the plain,
 By men engaged, he shakes his shaggy mane,
 He furious bounds on the intrepid foe,
 Then in his breast receives a deadly blow,
 He scorns his foe should hear his dying cries,
 Then frowns contemptuous, shakes his mane, and dies:
 Thus fell brave Thornhaugh, friend of human kind,
 Of body stout, and of exalted mind.

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Thus closed his eyes, his hand fell from his chest,
 And his brave soul was welcomed to its rest.
 His enraged comrades fought like lions all,
 And avenged amply their brave leader's fall.
 'Thornhaugh is dead!' they cried, 'Away, away,
 Let not a Scot survive this bloody day!'—
 They onward pressed, with havoc in their eyes,
 Confused their foes, and killed them in surprise.
 And still at Preston, when this day they name,
 The Nottingham Horse receives its meed of fame;
 And honest Thornhaugh, with his gallant band,
 Shall live in song throughout his native land,
 While freedom's cherished, or while Britons sing
 Of treacherous nobles or a tyrant king."

1757.

1757

July.—Appointment of a new Ministry of which Mr. Pitt, as Secretary of State, was made Premier and leader of the House of Commons. The Duke of Newcastle held office under him as First Lord of the Treasury, Mr. Fox as Paymaster of the Forces, and the Duke of Bedford as Viceroy of Ireland.

July 29.—Mr. Wesley re-visits Nottingham. There being no church or chapel open to him he preached in a house on the right hand side of Crosland-yard, Narrow-marsh, in the occupation of Matthew Bagshaw. An aperture had been made in the chamber-floor; and the women being above and the men below, and the preacher's head just above the floor, Mr. Wesley was heard in both house-place and chamber at the same time. The ceiling and chamber-floor of the house still bear evident marks of the aperture. It continued to be the usual preaching-place of the society until they removed to a large upper-room at the corner of Bottle-lane, on the very site where Zion Chapel now stands; and Mary White (the woman referred to in Mr. Nelson's autobiography) still received the preachers at her house in Chapel-court. *Byard-lane.*

September 5.—A great riot took place at
 by obnoxious provisions in the new
 gentlemen of the county were prop

Act, a mob of about five hundred persons entered the room where they were sitting and demanded their papers. Being refused the mob took them by force, and carried them in triumph through the streets, ill-treating Sir George Saville and other gentlemen they met in their route. 1757

September 20.—Execution of Richard Sturgess. He had long been suspected of robbing the dyehouses of the town, and being at length caught in the act, was capitally convicted.

September 29.—Alderman Cornelius Huthwaite elected Mayor.

A circumstance, sufficiently curious perhaps to merit a notice in this volume, took place this year in Narrow-marsh. A Scotchman of the name of Wilson, by trade a hawker, occupied a house in that street, which was broken in during his absence on one of his trading excursions, and amongst other property stolen was a quantity of silver plate. On his return, of course, he discovered the loss he had sustained and informed his neighbours, one of whom was a jobbing carpenter named David Lowe. A day or two afterwards, Lowe told Wilson that he had dreamt the stolen property was concealed in a certain pigstye in the neighbourhood. Wilson, accompanied by his son-in-law, Wright Hawley (many years an active electioneerer in the Tory interest), and also by Lowe himself, proceeded to the pigstye, and after a careful examination, found the whole of the stolen articles. The "canny Scotchman" naturally became suspicious that Lowe had been concerned in the robbery, and complained to a magistrate; and the result was that the suspected man was confined a week or two in gaol and then discharged, there being no evidence against him but his own account of his extraordinary dream, which however was generally believed to be true, for the man bore a good character. For years afterwards it was a common saying, "Don't be like David Lowe, get into prison for dreaming." Lowe was a man of uncommon bodily strength, and said to be double jointed. He once lifted from the ground the large hammer, weighing 7 cwt., at the Forge Mill, between Bulwell and Papplewick, then called Bulwell Forge.

Mr. Samuel Creswell, of Nottingham, (the grandfather of the present respected vicar of Radford,) and Mr. John Gregory, of Leicester, jointly commenced a newspaper this year (? 1753), entitled *The Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, which was printed at Leicester, and published at a given hour in Nottingham.

The first newspaper printed in Nottingham was commenced (according to Mr. Briscoe, F.R.H.S., Corporation Librarian) about Wednesday, October 3rd, 1710, by Mr. John Collyer, at his house on the Long-row; it was known as the *Nottingham Post*. *The Weekly Courant* was issued November 27th, 1710, by W. Ayscough, and was continued till 1723, when Mr. George began the *Nottingham Weekly Courant*. Mr. Ayscough's office was on the west side of Bridlesmith-gate, where is published Dr. Deering's History of Nottingham.

- 1757 The title of the journal was subsequently altered to *Ayscough's Nottingham Courant*: its price was at first twopence, and afterwards twopence halfpenny. A rival publication, *The Nottingham Mercury*, published by the aforesaid John Collyer, at the Hen Cross, at the price of three-half-pence, languished a few months and then expired. The *Courant* lasted till about 1760, when Mr. Creswell bought the proprietorship of Mr. Ayscough and converted it into an independent *Nottingham Journal*, dissolving his connection with Mr. Gregory, who, it may be remarked, then set up the *Leicester Journal*. Mr. Creswell occupied the house at the south end of the Exchange, which Mr. George Henry Judd now occupies. In February, 1772, Mr. George Burbage started the *Nottingham Chronicle*, on the Long-row, in the premises now occupied by the Nottingham Café Co., at the bottom of Bell-yard. The *Chronicle* continued in existence but three years; Creswell and Burbage compromised their differences and became joint proprietors of the *Journal*, which afterwards became the sole property of Mr. Burbage, and at his death, of Mr. George Stretton, who had married Mr. Burbage's daughter. The copyright was purchased by Mr. John Hicklin, in conjunction with Mr. Job Bradshaw, on Mr. Stretton's retirement in 1832, and the paper was published under the style or firm of John Hicklin and Co. In 1836 Mr. Bradshaw withdrew from the proprietorship, and Mr. Hicklin became the sole owner. He continued the publication on his own account until 1841, when the property passed into the hands of Mr. Job Bradshaw, with whom it remained until February, 1866, when it became the property of his two sons, Messrs. W. and A. S. Bradshaw. In 1780, Mr. Henry Cox, writing master, commenced *The Nottingham Gazette*, which was printed and published at the house on the Middle-pavement, adjoining Postern-place; this paper, however, only lasted a few weeks. *The Nottingham Review* was established by Mr. Charles Sutton at his house at the north-east corner of Bridlesmith-gate, June 3rd, 1808; on his death in 1829, his son, Mr. Richard Sutton, became the proprietor. On Dec. 30, 1870, it was incorporated with *The Nottingham Daily Express*. A second *Nottingham Gazette* made its appearance in 1813, from the office of Mr. William Tupman, at the north-west corner of High-street, but had only a brief existence. *The Nottingham Herald*, which issued from the office of Mr. E. B. Robinson, Long-row, in 1825, lived about a twelvemonth. The same year witnessed the introduction of the *Nottingham and Newark Mercury*, published by Mr. Jonathan Dunn, on the South-parade. Mr. Samuel Bennett succeeded Mr. Dunn as publisher in 1834, and at his death in 1836, Mr. Richard Allen became the registered proprietor. The paper then changed its title, and in 1847 the *Nottingham Mercury* went into the possession of Mr. Thomas Bailey. It lingered a short time, and ultimately became extinct. *The Nottinghamshire Guardian* was established in 1846; it was first published by Mr. B. S. Oliver, of the Long-row,

at the premises from which the *Journal* was many years issued, 1757 and was removed to the new premises in 1871. *The Nottingham Advertiser* was started by Mr. G. Batters, on the abolition of the stamp duty in 1854. *The Nottingham Telegraph* and *The Nottingham Weekly Times* were ushered into being shortly after, the former by Mr. Truman, and the latter by Mr. T. Stevenson. *The Nottingham Free Press* was commenced in June, 1859, by the author of *The Date Book*, Mr. J. F. Sutton. None of the four last named survived for any length of time. *The Nottingham Daily Express*, the first of the penny daily papers, was established January 4th, 1860. *The Nottingham Daily Guardian* was first issued July 1st, 1861. *The Journal* was commenced as a half-penny daily on January 4th, 1864, and changed to one penny June 17th, 1865. *The Evening Post*, half-penny paper, was issued May 1st, 1878, by T. Forman and Sons, the proprietors of the *Nottinghamshire Guardian* and *The Nottingham Daily Guardian*.

1758.

March 29.—Execution of Robert Wilson on Gallows-hill. 1758 This man had been the ostler of an inn at Newark, but being of dishonest propensities, was discharged from his situation, and plunged openly into a career of vice. At length he robbed a poor peddler woman, named Sarah Maud, on the highway, and being convicted received sentence of death. Just before being turned off, he declared emphatically that the woman gave him her bundle to carry and then ran away from him, and that he had no intention of robbing her.

May 26.—Robert Seagrave, Gent., appointed Town Clerk in the place of William Seagrave, Gent., deceased, appointed in 1744.

September 29.—Alderman Henry Butler entered upon the office of Mayor.

Death of Francis, Lord Middleton, of Wollaton Hall. He was succeeded by his son, Francis, who died suddenly and unmarried, December 16th, 1774, æt. 48. Thomas, his brother, the next lord, died also without issue, January 19th, 1781. The honours, &c., of the family descended consequently upon Henry Willoughby, Esq., of Birdsall, in the county of York.

Acts of Parliament were passed to reform and repair the turnpike roads from Nottingham to Derby, Alfreton, and Grantham.

The Rev. Timothy Wylde appointed Master of the Free School.

Wrestling was at this period a very favourite diversion. As in the game of cricket now, so in wrestling then, parish used to arrahall its most skilful practitioners against parish and county

- 1758 against county. The following contest may be adduced as a sample:—A Derbyshire wrestler, rejoicing in the unenviable cognomen of "Bullcalf," accompanied by a man named Askew, and other champions of their county's prowess, met the Nottinghamshire wrestlers this year at Blidworth: on this occasion all the Derbyshire men were thrown. Mr. John Trigge, of Arnold, was in his day one of the principal promoters of wrestling in this neighbourhood, and gave a prize of five guineas annually. He died in 1783. The great patron of this athletic sport, *Thomas Luctator*, as he humourously styled himself, had been overthrown a few years previously by the grim antagonist to whom all must succumb. Sir Thomas Parkyns, Bart., of Bunny Hall, to whom allusion is made, died in March, 1741, æt. 78. In 1712, Sir Thomas Parkyns established an annual wrestling at Bunny. The prize was a laced hat, value 22s., and 3s. for the second best competitor; and the wrestling was regulated by rules laid down by Sir Thomas. The ring was permanent and posted round, and at the time of matches was chained. It was formed in what is now the garden of the Rancliffe Arms Inn. The park-keeper used to take down the names of the competitors on separate slips of paper, and after shaking them together in a bag, draw two out, who were immediately brought forward, and the unsuccessful man had his ticket torn, and the winner's ticket placed in another bag to find a sturdier opponent in the first winners' list; and so on until the winners were reduced to one. Sir Thomas and his second lady were always attendants upon the wrestling. The attraction it exerted, however, over the idle and vicious of both sexes to congregate in multitudes in a generally quiet village, combined with other circumstances, at length called for its suppression, which was effected by Lord Rancliffe in 1810. A man named Butler, of Hucknall Torkard, was the last winner of a prize. Sir Thomas's *penchant* for wrestling was displayed even in his monument, prepared for erection before his death. It stands in the chancel of Bunny Church, and is divided into two compartments. The one on the left contains the statue of the worthy Baronet in a wrestling attitude, and is said to be as strong a resemblance to the original as the sculptor could possibly preserve, even to the jacket and cap in which he used to practise his favourite diversion. Above the head of the statue is the motto, "*Artificis status ipse fuit.*" In the lower part of the second compartment the strong man is represented as being conquered. Time is introduced with his scythe, in the attitude of a mower who has just cut down the ripened grain, and is preparing to take another sweep with his instrument of destruction. Stretched at his feet lies poor Sir Thomas in the same wrestling apparel, and in the position of a man fairly thrown on his back in a mortal struggle betwixt life and death: this is in *bas relief*, and, unfortunately, much mutilated. (Very good photographs of the altar screen of Mr. Jackson, Christian Memorial

1759.

April 4.—Samuel Ward was hung for breaking into the house of Mr. Liptrot, tallow-chandler and grocer, at the top of Byard-lane. This young man's untimely end excited much commiseration: his connections were respectable, and many entertained the idea that he had not a felonious design in entering the house. It was generally understood that Mrs. Liptrot died of a broken heart in consequence. 1759

August 8.—Trial of Eugene Aram, at York, for the murder of Daniel Clarke, a shoemaker, of Knaresborough, committed thirteen years previously. In the interval he had studied history, antiquity, heraldry, and botany, had written poetry, and become proficient in the Arabic, Chaldee, Hebrew, and other languages. He made a most skilful, argumentative, and eloquent defence, but was found guilty and executed. An accomplice named Houseman was the principal evidence against him. Aram came to Nottingham after the murder, but was apprehended at Lynn, where he held the situation of usher at the free school. The peculiar circumstances of the case created a most extraordinary amount of interest—an interest, indeed, which in some measure still continues and is not likely to subside, inasmuch as the melancholy tale has served as a basis for the enchanting fiction of a novelist and the exquisite pathos of a poet.

September 13.—Defeat of the French at Quebec, and death of General Wolfe.

September—The value of land at this date may be estimated by the following transfer:—At a public auction properly advertised, at the Blackmoor's Head Inn, Nottingham, a copyhold estate at Bulwell, consisting of thirty-one acres of inclosure and four acres of "field-land," sold for twenty-six years purchase at the rental of £15 7s. 6d. per annum. The estate belonged to Mr. Grammar.

September 29.—Alderman Isaac Wyld elected Mayor. The office becoming vacant shortly afterwards, either by his death or resignation, Alderman Thomas Langford succeeded him.

November 27.—The Duke of Newcastle, Recorder of Nottingham, presented an address to the King, at St. James's, from the Mayor and Burgesses in "Common Council" assembled, in which they congratulate His Majesty on "the signal and glorious successes which have attended your Majesty's arms both by sea and land in the course of this auspicious year, particularly upon the defeat of the French army in Canada, and the taking of the city of Quebec, an acquisition not less honourable to your Majesty's forces than destructive of the trade, commerce, and power of the French in North America." His Majesty, it is said, "received the address very graciously."

November 30.—William Andrew Horne, Esq., executed for manslaughter was the eldest son of a gentleman who

- 1759 possessed a considerable estate at Butterley, in the county of Derby. He was born on the 30th of November, 1685, and was instructed by his father, who was probably the best classical scholar in the county. In learning, however, he made but small progress, owing to the over-indulgence of his parent who made him a favourite and supplied him with a horse and money to ramble from one place to another in search of diversion. In this career of dissipation young Horne plunged into open licentiousness. Not content with making his mother's maid-servants victims to his criminal desires he acknowledged in a paper, written with his own hand, to being the occasion of the murder of a young woman who was *enccinte* by him, and to having had illicit intercourse with his own sisters. He also murdered a man named Amos Killer, who came to beg at his door. By one woman he had two natural children, both girls; one of them died at the age of fifteen, and the other might have been married to a man of some property, who offered to settle a jointure of £30 a year on her if her father would give her the small sum of £50, but this the unfeeling monster sternly refused. In the month of February, 1724, Horne's sister was delivered of a fine boy. Three days subsequently he accosted his brother Charles, who then lived with him at his father's, at ten o'clock at night, and told him he must take a ride with him that night. He then fetched the child, and they put it into a long linen bag. They took two horses from the stable, and rode direct to Annesley in this county, about five miles from Butterley, carrying the child by turns. When they arrived near the village William alighted, and asked whether the child was alive. Charles answering in the affirmative, he took it and went away bidding him stay till he should return. When Charles asked what he had done with it, he said he had laid it near a haystack and covered it with hay. After his condemnation, Horne asserted that he had no intention the child should die; that, to preserve its life, he put it into a bag lined with wool, with a hole in it to admit air; that the child was well dressed, and was designed as a present for Mr. Chaworth, intending to lay it at his door; but on taking it from his brother and approaching the hall the dogs made such a constant barking that he dare not go to the door for fear of discovery, there being a little light in one of the windows; that, upon this disappointment he went back some distance, and at last determined to lay it under a warm haystack, hoping it might be discovered early the next morning by those who came to fodder the cattle. The child was indeed found the next morning by the farmer's man, but not till some time after life had become totally extinct. Charles, soon after, upon some difference with his brother, disclosed the affair to his father, who insisted however that he should never again speak of it. It was accordingly kept a secret till the old gentleman's death, which took place about 1747, in the 102nd year of his age. Charles's desire to bring to light the deed of

the death of his father, and soon after, at an interview with a Derby attorney named Cooke on parish business, he revealed the matter. The attorney advised him to go to a magistrate and make a full disclosure. He accordingly went to a neighbouring justice, but was told he had better be quiet as it was an affair of long standing, or he might hang half the family. Still uneasy, Charles mentioned it to some other persons, but without any judicial step being taken. One of these was Mr. John White, of Ripley, whom he sent for when very ill of a flux. He told him that "he was a dying man, and could not go out of the world without disclosing his mind to him;" at the same time telling him of the incest and murder. Mr. White said the affair was so delicate he did not know what to advise. A few days after, Mr. White finding him surprisingly recovered, asked him to what it was owing. He said to his disclosing his mind to him. Some time previously William Andrew Horne had threatened a Mr. Roe for killing game, and happening to meet at a public-house, a dispute arose about his right to do so, which got to such a pitch that Roe called Horne "an incestuous old dog." For uttering these words Roe was prosecuted in the ecclesiastical court at Lichfield, and being unable to substantiate them, was obliged to submit and pay all expenses. Roe being afterwards informed that Charles Horne had mentioned to some persons that his brother William had starved his natural child to death, went to them and found it was true. Upon this, he applied, about Christmas, 1758, to a magistrate residing at Alfreton, for a warrant for Horne's apprehension, that the truth might come out. The warrant was granted, but as the justices did public business on Mondays only, the constable took Horne's word for his appearance. Meanwhile, being informed of the proceeding against him, Horne sent for his brother Charles, and bid him forswear himself and he would befriend him. Charles refused to do this, but said, "Considering your behaviour to me I have no reason to expect any favour from you; but as you are my brother, if you will give me five pounds to carry me to Liverpool, I will immediately embark for another land." This very moderate request met with a decided refusal. "I'll chance it," was Horne's reply. The Derbyshire magistrate evincing some reluctance to examine fully into the charge, application was made, about the middle of March, to a Nottinghamshire magistrate, who at once granted a warrant for Horne's apprehension. The instrument was then endorsed by Sir John Every, a Derbyshire justice, and at about eight o'clock at night the constable of Annesley went to Horne's house at Butterley and knocked at the door, but was refused admittance. He then left Mr. Roe (who seems to have hunted the man down with relentless animosity) and two others to guard the house, and came again the next morning, but was then told by the man-servant that Mr. Horne ^{was} ~~was~~ ^{from} home. They insisted he was in the house and ~~he~~ break open the door, upon which they were let in,

1759 They searched all over the house, but could not find him. Roe pressed them to make a second search, and in one of the rooms they observed a large old chest. Mrs. Horne, the wife, said there was nothing in it but table-linen and sheets. Roe insisted on looking into it, and was proceeding to break the lid when Mrs. Horne opened it, and her husband started up in a fright bare-headed, saying, "It is a sad thing to hang me, for my brother Charles is as bad as myself, and he can't hang me without hanging himself." He was carried before two magistrates of Nottinghamshire, and after a long examination, in the course of which he had little to offer in defence, he was committed to the gaol at Nottingham for trial at the assizes. Soon after his commitment Horne made an application to the Court of King's Bench to be removed by writ of *habeas corpus*, in order to be bailed; for which purpose he was taken to London in custody of the gaoler. The Court, however, refused his request, and Horne became again an inmate of the County Gaol. On the 10th of August, 1759, the wretched man was arraigned at the bar for trial before Lord Chief Baron Parker. After nine hours investigation the jury withdrew for half-an-hour, and then returned with the verdict guilty of wilful murder. The very persons who found the child had appeared to corroborate the brother's evidence. He was immediately sentenced to be executed on the Monday following; but in the evening, at the intercession of some gentlemen, the judge was pleased to give him a month's respite. At the expiration of this time he obtained another respite, postponing his execution to an indefinite period. The long interval allowed him between sentence and execution was spent chiefly in fruitless applications to influential parties, soliciting their interest with Government in his favour. He evinced very little penitence for his many crimes, and said repeatedly that he felt it doubly hard to suffer on the evidence of a brother for an offence committed so many years before. A day or two before his death, he solemnly denied the committal of many atrocious deeds which common report laid upon him. To one person he said, "My friend, my brother Charles was tried at Derby about twenty years ago and acquitted, my dear sister Nanny forswearing herself at that time to save his life. His life, you see, was preserved to hang me, but you'll see him ———." He said to the clergyman who attended him, "I forgive all my enemies, even my brother Charles; but if, at the day of judgment, God Almighty should ask me how my brother Charles behaved, I would not give him a good character." Horne was hung on his birth-day, being exactly 74 years of age. This he alluded to several times after the final order for his execution had arrived; and said, "he was always accustomed to have a plum-pudding on his birth-day, and would again could he obtain another respite." He was driven to the Gallows-hill by his own coach. A gloomy procession ascended the Mansfield-
of the hoary sinner streamed mournful

being uncovered and the vehicle open, and the day very tempestuous. He met his doom with a considerable degree of fortitude in the presence of an immense crowd of spectators, including hundreds of his Derbyshire neighbours and tenantry. The corpse was taken to the County Hall for dissection; and tradition asserts, though there is no documentary evidence to attest it, that the body was afterwards exposed to public gaze in a garden at the back of the ancient house (part of which still remains) facing the ascent of Hollow-stone. This building has long borne the name of "Old Horne's Hall," and, till altered a few years back, access was obtained to the upper and back parts of the premises through a wide stone staircase opening on the street.

The Rev. J. T. Alliston appointed minister at the Independent Meeting-house, Castle-gate. The first Independent Church in Nottingham was formed in the year 1655. Its members, however, were soon after scattered by the operation of the Conventicle Act, which provided that every person above sixteen years of age who should be found at a religious meeting, the principles of which should be adjudged to be contrary to the established religion, where more than five persons were present besides the household, should pay £5, or be imprisoned three months for the first offence, double for the second, and for the third to be banished seven years, or pay £100; and in case of return or escape, to suffer death without benefit of clergy. This and other acts compelled the members to disperse: part of them remained in the town, and held secret assemblies in cellars and other secluded places with a trusty sentinel guarding the approaches, and another portion settled for a time at Sutton-in-Ashfield. In 1686, when the heat of the persecution had subsided, the survivors reassembled, and appointed Mr. John Ryther as their pastor. The successive pastors since Mr. Ryther's decease in 1704, have been as follows:—the Rev. Richard Bateson, 1704 to 1739; the Rev. James Sloss, M.A., 1733 to 1772; the Rev. John T. Alliston, 1759 to 1771; the Rev. Richard Plumbe, 1772 to 1791; the Rev. Richard Alliot, 1794 to 1840; the Rev. Richard Alliot, LL.D., 1828 to 1843; the Rev. Samuel McAll, 1843 to 1860; the Rev. C. Clemance, B.A., 1860 to 1875; and the present pastor, the Rev. John Bartlett. The old Meeting-house in Castle-gate was erected in 1689, but in 1863 it was taken down and the present chapel erected on the same site.

Establishment of the banking firm, Messrs. John and Ichabod Wright and Company, Carlton-street.

The bank of Messrs. Smith and Co., South-parade, is the oldest in the town. It is believed to have originated in the year 1760, though the precise date cannot be ascertained. For many years after its establishment, owing to the absence of banking facilities in the north-midland district, its operations extended widely. The fact is well authenticated, that many of the remote parts of Yorkshire and

1759 Lancashire, were compelled to conduct all their banking transactions at Nottingham, from seventy to one hundred miles distant from their dwellings, there being no bank at Leeds or Sheffield, or any of the intermediate towns. These transactions were performed in the most cumbrous and expensive manner. When a Leeds merchant received a remittance of foreign bills of exchange, his habit was to mount his horse, carry them to Nottingham to be discounted, and take home the solid metal in his saddle-bags.

Messrs. Moore and Robinson's Banking Company was established in 1802, under the style or firm of Messrs. Moore, Maltby, Evans, and Middlemore. The partnership was dissolved in 1815, in consequence of the death of three of the partners. The bank then became known as that of Messrs. Moore, Maltby, and Robinson, (Mr. Moore being the son of the former banker). In 1836, the firm disposed of a certain portion of their interest in the business, and the bank became the joint concern of a numerous and highly respectable proprietary, under the style of Messrs. Moore and Robinson's Banking Company.

The Bank of Messrs. Fellows, Mellor, and Hart was established January 1, 1808, at the premises in Bridlesmith-gate. The style of the firm is now Messrs. Hart, Fellows, and Company.

Messrs. Rawson, Inkersole, Rawson, and Co. instituted a bank in the same year (1808), on the 10th of November, at premises in the Poultry. This bank closed its operations in 1817.

The Northern and Central Bank of England, Manchester, opened a branch in Carlton-street, in 1834. The directors, having had to encounter severe losses, wound the concern up in 1837-8.

The Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Banking Company commenced business in Pelham-street, in April, 1834.

The Nottingham Joint Stock Bank commenced in 1865, at the corner of Bridlesmith-gate and Low-pavement, and removed to their new premises in Victoria-street, 1874.

1760.

1760 April 16.—Trial of Laurence, fourth Earl of Ferrers, for murdering Mr. Johnson, his steward, at Stanton, in the county of Leicester. It was proved that his lordship shot him with a pistol most deliberately. The investigation did not conclude till the 18th, when the House of Peers, before whom it took place, adjudged him worthy of death. The Right Hon. Lord Henley (Earl of Nottingham), who acted as High Steward, with consent of the Peers, respited his lordship's execution till Monday, May 6th. The very hardened conduct of Lord Ferrers, through every intricacy of this horrid affair, was conspicuous even to the last moment of his departure from life. The night before his execution he made one of his keepers read *Shakespeare*

after he was in bed; he paid all his bills in the morning as coolly as if leaving an inn; and, half-an-hour before the arrival of the sheriff to convey him to the fatal tree, corrected some verses he had written in the Tower, in imitation of the Duke of Buckingham's epitaph:—

Dubius sed non improbus vixi.
In doubt I lived—in doubt I die—
Yet stand prepared the vast abyss to try,
And undismayed, expect eternity.

His lordship was dressed in his wedding clothes, which were of light colour and embroidered in silver. He set out from the Tower at nine o'clock, amidst crowds of spectators. First went a large body of constables, preceded by one of the high constables; next came a party of grenadiers and a party of foot; then the sheriff in a chariot and six, the horses dressed with ribbons; and next, Lord Ferrers, in a landau and six escorted by parties of horse and foot. The other sheriff's carriage followed, succeeded by a mourning coach and six, conveying some of the malefactor's friends, and lastly, a hearse and six provided for the purpose of taking the corpse from the place of execution to Surgeons' Hall. The scaffold was hung with black by the undertaker at the expense of Lord Ferrers' family. His lordship was pinioned with a black sash, and was unwilling to have his hands tied or face covered, but was persuaded to both. On the silken rope being put round his neck he turned pale, but recovered instantly. About seven minutes after leaving the landau, the signal was given for striking the stage, and in four minutes he was dead. The corpse was subject to dissection.

September 29.—Alderman Robert Huish elected Mayor.

October 25.—Death of George II. This monarch died at Kensington, in the 77th year of his age, and the 34th of his reign. He was succeeded by his son.

The Theatre in St. Mary's-gate was built about this period by Mr. Whiteley, a wealthy manager of an itinerant company of comedians. It stands on land partly the site of a former theatre, and partly a purchase from Alderman Fellows.

Ayscough's Nottingham Courant of this date contained the following advertisement:—

THE Flying Machines on Steel Springs set off from the Swann with Two Neck, Inn, Lad Lane, London, and from the Angell Inn, in Sheffield, every Monday and Thursday morning at five o'clock, and lies the first night from London at the Angell Inn, in Northampton, the second at the Blackmoor's Head Inn, Nottingham, and the third at Sheffield.

Each Passenger to pay £1 17s., and to be allowed 14lbs. of Luggage.
Performed (if God permit) by John Hanforth and Samuel Glanville.

This public notice was applicable to the summer months only: in the winter, the journey occupied an additional day; and it was deemed a performance sufficiently wonderful to justify the use of term "flying machine" for the ponderous vehicle in which it was taken. Facetious as it may seem to us, it was then appropriate designation.

- 1760 The same journal exhibited the pretensions of what was evidently a principal boarding-school in this neighbourhood. They were thus temptingly displayed :—

THIS is to acquaint the Publick, that the Boarding School at Arnold near Nottingham, will be continued as usual, by Martha Syston, Daughter, and proper Assistants, (the House is adjacent to the Church, healthy and pleasant situated) where young Ladies are carefully educated and instructed in English, and all sorts of Needlework, upon easy Terms. The greatest Care will be taken of them in all Respects, and nothing omitted that can be conducive to their Health, or improving to their Morals and genteel Education.

Dancing, Writing, and Accounts, if required.

N.B.—At the same Place may be had all sorts of Millinery Goods, with Teas, Coffee, and Chocolate.

Alas! for "Martha Syston's" ability "to instruct in English," her advertisement belies her profession. It is reasonable to suppose her to have been better qualified to instruct in fancy needlework than to construct a sentence; and the seminary might probably have been more properly designated a genteel millinery establishment. Mrs. Syston may be regarded as a specimen of a once common, but now obsolete class. The dame, with all her literary deficiencies, and these were doubtless many, would be fully capable of meeting the requirements of her pupils. Female education, in the modern acceptation of the term, was rarely even attempted. To understand ornamental sewing, and to read and converse with a degree of correctness, were the chief things aimed at: the art of writing was not deemed an essential. Mrs. Syston intimates that writing was taught only "if required." This was general almost throughout the country. The poet Southey states that, eighty years ago, the mistress of the head school near Bristol was grossly illiterate, though clever with her needle. She was a handsome woman, and her children were, like the *Harleian Miscellany*, by different authors. This was notorious; yet her school, he adds, flourished notwithstanding, and she retired from it at last with a competent fortune, and was visited as long as she lived by her former pupils. Truly, since then, the march of intelligence and of respect for morality has made rapid strides.

1761.

- 1761 *March 11.*—Re-election of Lord Robert Sutton and John Thornhaugh Hewitt, Esq., as the county representatives in Parliament.

March 26.—The town election. Return of the Hon. Colonel William Howe and John Plumptre, Esq.

July.—A race was run on the Nottingham course which excited immense interest, a greater amount of money depending upon its issue than upon any race ever run in the Midland counties. The horses were, John Borlace Warren, Esq's., Careless, and the Duke of Devonshire's famous horse Atlas: they were the best horses of the day, and had beaten all they had contended with. Careless was the Nottingham favourite, and on him the local

sportsmen risked every shilling they could raise. The animals had once before met at York, on the 30th of August, 1760, when Atlas was beaten. It was then determined by the owners to try at Nottingham which of the two was really the best horse in England. Alas! for the "knowing ones" of Nottingham, Careless was second in the contest, the superior skill of his opponent's jockey having ensured the laurels for what was probably the worst horse. Careless was a chestnut horse of wonderful power and size, and was bred Mr. Warren, at Stapleford.

August 18.—Death of John Deane, Esq., at his residence at Wilford, in the 82nd year of his age. Captain Deane was born in the reign of Charles II., in the year 1679, and was the youngest son of a gentleman of moderate fortune living in Nottingham. When he attained a proper age for business he took the strange fancy of being apprenticed to a butcher, and was gratified in this wish; but being bold and spirited, he became associated with a gang of deer stealers, and at length, dreading detection, thought it prudent to go to sea. In this new occupation Deane's natural bias found congenial employment, and there is strong reason for believing that he was with Sir George Rooke at the capture of Gibraltar, where he was raised for his bravery to the rank of a naval captain. In 1710, when laid up and destitute of employment, his father, brother, and himself, purchased a vessel, which they named *The Nottingham galley*, and after freighting her with merchandise, Captain Deane took the command and sailed for North America. The ship was unfortunately wrecked on the New England coast, and the crew landed with great difficulty on a barren island, destitute of both clothes and provisions, the sea having swallowed up everything. Here they remained twenty-six days exposed to severe hunger and cold, of which three of the seamen perished, and the survivors were driven to the horrid and revolting necessity of feeding upon one of the dead bodies. On the 5th of January, 1711, a vessel came near enough to perceive their signals, and when despair had almost driven them mad, they were providentially rescued. Capt. Deane returned to Nottingham, and a very sad and fatal affair arose. Dr. Jasper Deane, who resided in Fletcher-gate, had embarked considerable property in the galley, and whenever he met his brother, the Captain, he upbraided him in unmeasured terms as the cause of his serious loss, so that at last they avoided each other's company. At length animosity appeared to subside, and under the condition that the subject should not be introduced, the Captain met the Doctor at a party, and there was every appearance of a restoration of friendship on both sides; no allusion was made to the galley, and instead of separating the Captain agreed to accompany his brother to his residence. Unhappily, the Doctor's stifled feeling broke loose, and in Fletcher-gate he again used some bitter invectives; they had nearly reached his door when the Doctor assuming a threatening attitude, the Captain pushed him away with his

- 1761 open hand, and the former fell, ruptured a blood vessel, and died immediately; but whether the rupture was caused by excitement or the fall could not be ascertained. In 1714, Captain Deane commanded a ship of war in the service of the Czar of Muscovy, which he retained till 1720. He was subsequently, (till 1738, when he retired to Wilford with a handsome competency,) British Consul at the ports of Flanders and Ostend. The retired Captain built the two neat dwellings near the entrance of the village from the ferry. That nearest the river was the one he occupied first; the other, very similar in appearance, was erected afterwards. In 1748, whilst walking in his own grounds in broad daylight, the Captain was attacked by a robber, who plundered him of everything valuable he had about him, even to the sleeve buttons from his wrists. The despoiler, whose name was Miller, was apprehended, and a few months afterwards was executed. Captain Deane lived in seven reigns, viz: Charles II., James II., William and Mary, Anne, George I., George II., and George III. A tombstone in Wilford church-yard, surrounded by iron railing, denotes the place of his interment.

September 22.—The Coronation Day of George the Third, and Charlotte, his Royal Consort. The people of Nottingham joined heartily in the national festivity. The morning was ushered in by the ringing of bells. At ten o'clock a crowded congregation attended St. Mary's Church, where a coronation anthem, composed by Mr. Wise, the organist, was performed by a large choir. At noon a great number of the respectable inhabitants met at the Exchange, and proceeding thence paraded the principal streets with music and streamers, preceded by the Mayor and Aldermen in their scarlet robes, the Sheriffs, Chamberlains, and Common Council in their corporate habiliments, and also by the clergy in their canonicals, and numerous gentlemen on horseback. One of the most conspicuous features in the procession was the company of woolcombers, then a numerous body, who had streamers and a band of music of their own. They were dressed in Holland shirts, black breeches, white stockings, and woollen wigs, with sashes and cockades of the same sheepish material: one of them on horseback represented the renowned Bishop Blaize in his episcopal robes, the "right reverend" mimic making occasional halts to display his oratorical powers. About two o'clock the procession divided into sections. Some repaired to inns where banquets had been provided; and others retired to arbours which had been erected in the streets for the purpose of convivial enjoyment, collections having been made among the wealthy with which to regale the needy. Several sheep were roasted whole in the Market-place, and a splendid and universal illumination of the town at night, and a brilliant display of fireworks, closed the festivity.

September 29.—Alderman James Hornbuckle elected Mayor.

October 20.—The ancient and magnificent Manor House at

Worksop, the seat of Edward, the ninth Duke of Norfolk, totally destroyed by fire, with the exception of the chapel and a part of the east wing. This stately building contained about 500 rooms, and a truly valuable gallery of paintings. The library, pictures, many of the old Arundelian marbles, and numerous precious articles of vertu, were destroyed, and the total damage was computed at £100,000. The foundation stone of the second Manor House was laid on the 25th of March, 1763. This edifice, splendid as it was even in its imperfection, was never completed, one side only of the original design having been built. The house and estate were sold to the Duke of Newcastle in 1838, for the sum of £375,000, exclusive of the furniture, which was taken at a valuation. The Manor House was demolished by order of the Duke. 1761

Erection of the building in Halifax-place, 30 feet by 57, many years known as Zion chapel. This structure was raised by a number of seceders from the Presbyterian congregation on the High-pavement. Through the solicitation of the Rev. George Walker, the seceders returned, and till the year 1800 the chapel was occupied by a party of Independents. It then came into the possession of the Calvinistic Methodists, followers of the Rev. George Whitefield, or, as they were termed, "Lady Huntingdon's party." Mr. Crockford, and afterwards Mr. J. Byran, sustained the office of pastor many years.

The authorities at the Mint issued an immense quantity of quarter-guinea pieces in gold about this period.

The Judges of His Majesty's courts at law began to be appointed for life, instead of "during pleasure," as heretofore.

1762.

January 4.—Declaration of war against Spain. 1762

January 27.—Institution of the Nottingham Wednesday meat market, previously unknown.

April 3.—A number of workmen engaged in pulling down an old building on Beastmarket-hill, when digging up a foundation discovered a great quantity of human bones, the deposits of a former age. In a decayed coffin were found the remains of a man, supposed to have been more than six feet in stature; the lower jaw was quiet perfect, and the teeth sound and complete. A monastery of White Friars or Carmelites formerly stood in that part of the town, and the exterior wall inclosing the ground extended from Friar-lane to St. James's-street, and was bounded on the east by the Market-place. In the above mentioned excavations the labourers found, from the remains of the ancient chapel which they met with, that part of the building must have stood considerably lower than the present surface: various ornamental parts of doors and windows in a good state of

- 1762 preservation, and many curious remains excited public attention. Several disentanglements of bones and relics of the Carmelites have since taken place; and some of the houses in that neighbourhood stand upon the foundations of the old monastic structures.

May.—A framework-knitter of the neighbourhood bought a piece of veal in the Shambles, took it home, and ordered his wife to roast it for dinner by twelve o'clock, which she did as directed; but he not coming home at the time she put it by untouched. At four o'clock the husband came home and brought a beefsteak, which he desired to be cooked for his dinner, saying at that time he should prefer it to the veal. This order the wife also obeyed; but when he had eaten part of the steak, feeling himself unwell, he inquired what she had fried it in, to which she answered, "the veal dripping." "Then," said he, "I am a dead man; for, having a mind to poison you, I rubbed the veal over with arsenic!" The man died shortly afterwards in great agony.

May 26.—Lord Bute placed at head of the ministry.

August 9.—Elizabeth Morton, a girl only 15 years of age, who had lived in the service of Mr. J. Oliver, a farmer of Walkeringham, in the north of the county, was committed to the County Gaol, on the charge of strangling the infant child of her master, aged two years, as it lay in its cradle. This victim of ignorance, for it appears she could neither read nor write, was immured in gaol till the 13th of the following March, and being then adjudged guilty, received sentence of death. The Judge, in a very pathetic speech, which (states the record) drew tears from several of the audience, ordered the unhappy girl to be hung the following Monday; but in compassion to her youth, he was pleased to grant a respite till the Wednesday in Easter week. In her confession the girl said that she was incited to the commission of the crime by a gentleman in black, who came to bed to her and told her she must murder two of her master's children. She could not feel easy, she said, till she had done as directed. She accordingly did murder one and attempted the life of the other, which when found was so nearly dead as to make its recovery at first very doubtful. On her passage to the Gallows-hill, April 6th, 1763, she betrayed but little emotion; and even when standing on the plank laid across the cart at the fatal spot itself, with the halter around her neck and the vehicle about to move away and leave her struggling with death, of all the thousands congregated at this "famous Easter spectacle" the poor girl was apparently as little concerned as any. Her features and person were rather attractive than repulsive: she was stoutly made, and tall considering her age.

August 13.—A fire broke out between nine and ten at night in the stables belonging to the Black Boy Inn, Long-row, which raged violently till midnight, and spread dismay on every side. Two engines and a good supply of water were at length effectual

in stopping its progress. The stables, outhouses, and a great quantity of hay and straw, were totally destroyed, and a valuable mare also fell a victim to the flames. So terrible a conflagration had not been seen in the town for more than sixty years. 1762

September 29.—Alderman Humphrey Hollins elected Mayor.

December 13.—Election of a Knight of the Shire to serve in Parliament, in the place of Lord Robert Sutton, deceased.

A great number of the gentry, clergy, and freeholders of the county assembled by invitation, early in the morning, at Wollaton Hall, where a sumptuous entertainment, with every kind of liquor, was provided. The grand room in the centre of the noble mansion was filled with tables, covered with beef, hams, chickens, pickled salmon, tongues, venison, ducks, and geese; in short, with everything that could please or satisfy the appetite of the most luxurious freeholder. At eleven a cavalcade was formed. The Hon. Thomas Willoughby (candidate for the vacant seat), on issuing from the north side of the hall, was received with the sound of kettle drums, trumpets, and the united shouts of a prodigious concourse of people, who all moved regularly on at a slow pace towards Nottingham. The procession arrived at the County Hall about twelve, and in an hour afterwards the young gentleman was declared duly elected without opposition. The new representative was publicly chaired from the place of election along Bridlesmith-gate and round the Market-place, preceded by the town and county flags and bands of music. In the evening, several public dinners took place, and the populace were entertained with some hogsheads of ale in the streets. A grand ball imparted a graceful finish to the day's proceedings.

The streets of Nottingham first lighted at this period. The illuminating power was obtained by means of oil lamps, with globular glass bottoms, which were however so thick and opaque as to render them very nearly useless.

The Rev. Luke Booker, LL.D., a clergyman of the Church of England distinguished for his literary acquirements, was born in Nottingham this year; took holy orders in 1785, and eventually became the vicar of Dudley. As a preacher Dr. Booker was distinguished by fervid piety and an impressive and commanding eloquence, which gave a grace to his attainments; and as a proof of the high degree of public estimation in which his ministrations were held, it is sufficient to state that during his ministry he preached one hundred and seventy-three sermons on public and charitable occasions, and that the collections made on behalf of the objects for which he pleaded amounted to nearly £9,000. Dr. Booker was the author of many excellent works, viz.:—*Poems*, on various occasions; *Christian Intrepidity*; *Calista, or the Picture of Modern Life*; *Euthanasia, the State of Man after Death*; *Discourses and Dissertations*, 2 vols.; and a variety of others. He was a fearless antagonist of the emissaries of infidelity, and a powerful defender of the Church against Unitarian or Papal

- 1762 aggressors. He was of the family of which Messrs. Booker, architects, of this town, are descendants, and is believed to have been born in Barker-gate. His death occurred in October, 1835.

1763.

- 1763 *January 1.*—Evelyn Pierrepont, second Duke of Kingston, appointed Lord Lieutenant and Custus Rotulorum of the county. The connection of this nobleman with Mrs. Harvey, the wife of Captain Harvey, subsequently Earl of Bristol, is too remarkable to be passed over here without notice. This lady was a Miss Elizabeth Chudleigh, only daughter of Colonel Thomas Chudleigh, of Devonshire. She was born in 1725, and, at the same time she was receiving the addresses of the Duke of Hamilton, secretly married Captain Harvey. This marriage was duly registered, but Mrs. Harvey, whilst carrying on her intrigues to inveigle the Duke of Kingston (who was also smitten with the attractions of the lady still supposed to be Miss Chudleigh), removed the testimony of her union by going under some pretence to the church, and tearing the leaf on which it was written out of the register-book. All parties who had witnessed the ceremony were dead. Captain Harvey wishing to marry another lady applied to his wife to sue for a divorce, but this she steadfastly refused, asserting that she could at any time she thought proper be either Duchess of Kingston or Countess of Bristol. After considerable practice upon him, the Duke of Kingston publicly married her on the 8th of March, 1769, and the history of her life, both before and after this period, is little better than a disgusting record of tyranny and debauchery. A year after her marriage she came to the Duke's seat at Holme Pierrepont near this town, but, it is stated, she only stayed there one day, alleging the gloominess of the place, and the adjacency of the churchyard, a sufficient cause for disliking it. The Duke, after suffering many indignities and disgraces through the Duchess, died on the 22nd of September, 1773, and with a view of recovering some property of which the Duchess held possession under his will, a junior member of the family entered a prosecution against her for bigamy. After a long trial at Westminster Hall, before the House of Lords, she was pronounced guilty, but pleading "the privilege of the peerage," was discharged from custody. The Countess of Bristol died at Paris, 1788, aged 63. One of her latest requests was that she might be buried at Holme Pierrepont by the side of the Duke, and that their coffins might be chained together. This was of course not complied with.

January 5.—Mr. Whitely, the proprietor of the Theatre, had opened it to the public for six nights without any admission fee, for their amusement during the holidays, and this evening the tragedy of *Cato* was performed. A day or two afterwards an

Alderman of the town, who was violently opposed to such amusements, issued warrants to four constables to apprehend a comedian named Wheeler for representing the character of Portius, under what Act or by what authority, the record, however, does not state. After some resistance and consequent violence, Wheeler was dragged to the Alderman's residence, and underwent an examination of three hours' duration, and was then ordered to the House of Correction, guarded by seven constables and their assistants. As the constables were conveying the unhappy *Portius* to gaol, Mr. Whitely, who had been an indignant spectator of the extraordinary proceeding, attempted a rescue. A riot ensued, and the prisoner was liberated and escaped after a very warm combat, in which much blood was spilt. Mr. Whitely, less fortunate, fell in the fray, and was carried in a very bloody and dangerous state to the House of Correction. During his temporary confinement he composed some mock-heroic lines, which were committed to the press and circulated, from which we subjoin an extract:—

Dear Town of Commerce, once the Muses' seat,
Where Players tasted happiness complete!
Till dark stupidity usurped the throne,
Where candour and humanity were shown:
With iron sceptre, and a flinty heart,
To wield the weapon justice should impart.

Behold that Youth, with every virtue fraught,
Great George, by inward sanctity best taught,
Makes theatres his rational delight,
As choicest microscopes of wrong and right,
To mend the heart, and rectify the mind,
Since there, example is to precept joined:
His step I followed through the smiling throng,
Nor thought what *there* was right, could *here* be wrong.
But, if in error's paths I rashly trod,
My fault's before an all-forgiving God!
I'm not the first who has for Freedom fell,
That scorn'd his country's liberty to sell:
And though beneath a shameful roof I lie,
By living well, I'm well prepared to die.
My sad condition anything might move
To pity (but obdurate foes to love)!
Who now oppressive castigation feel,
From a tyrannic and mistaken zeal;
Yet, howsoever wounded and oppressed,
Be thou, O Nottingham, for ever blest.

January 23.—Death of Samuel Peak, Esq., at an advanced age, one of the wealthiest inhabitants of the town. Mr. Peak served the office of High Sheriff of the county in 1730, and was the treasurer of the Blue Coat Charity School, to which he was a worthy benefactor. He died at his mansion on Angel-row, and the family afterwards removed into Warwickshire.

February.—Articles of peace signed at Paris between France, Spain, and England. This treaty, the benefits of which were mostly on the side of England, was counterbalanced by a national debt, now increased to 138 millions sterling.

1763

March 3.—The Royal Foresters, a light regiment of dragoons, commanded by the renowned Marquis of Granby, which had been stationed in Nottingham a few weeks, were publicly disbanded in the Market-place by command of the Crown. The men were drawn out under arms at nine in the morning. They were then, with the officers, thanked for their services by Lieut-General Webbe. The latter were declared upon half-pay, and the men received each £3, with permission to claim their horse furniture and regimental clothes, and also six days' pay to carry them to their former residences. Their arms were given up to be forwarded to the Tower, and the horses were sold in the neighbourhood, and realized about £7 each. Thus was one of the finest regiments in the service, the raising of which had cost the Exchequer above £20,000, broken up and dispersed into different parts of the country.

March 14.—An association was formed at the house of Mr. Patricius Goodall, the Red Lion Inn,* Pelham-street, by the breeders of game fowls in the counties of Nottingham, Derby, and Leicester, "for the prosecuting of all such persons that shall be apprehended stealing or detrimmenting any fowls belonging to the said society, according as the law directs." A great number of game cocks had been injured or carried away from their walks by parties probably who had staked money against them,—a practice which the association was intended to check; but the circumstance that mainly led to its institution was this: the water given to the cocks of the London side against Nottingham in a great match that was to have taken place about this period, and had drawn to the town many of the aristocracy and moneyed men, was found to have been poisoned with arsenic so as to disable them from fighting, some person having contrived to get into the cellar at the White Lion Inn, where the fowls were kept: a reward of £50 was offered by Major Brereton for his apprehension.

March 24.—A labouring man of Ossington, aged 80 years, committed to the County Gaol, Nottingham, for having a child by his own granddaughter, aged 17.

April 4.—The Earl of Bute resigned office as head of the Ministry, and was succeeded by Mr. Grenville.

July 5.—A very gay and numerous assemblage of the nobility and gentry favoured Nottingham with their attendance at the races and cocking. The Duke of York, the Dukes of Rutland and Kingston,† the Marquis of Granby, and Lords Byron,‡ Strange, and Sutton, were amongst the number.

September 29.—Grand Corporation festival on the election of Alderman Cornelius Huthwaite to the Mayoralty. The Marquis of Granby, the officers of the Horse Guards Blue, then stationed

* The site is now occupied by Messrs. Lewis and Grundy, Ironmongers.

† The Duke of Kingston's town-house was in Stoney-street, the premises now in possession of Mr. Heymann, lace Manufacturer. A tower formerly surmounted the building.

‡ The town-house of the Byron family was at the south-east corner of Pelham-street

here, and a great number of the gentry, both of town and county, 1763 were present.

September 30.—Proclamation was made by the Mayor from the Malt and Hen Crosses, that, during his term of office, no tolls would be taken for fruit of any kind brought into the town. This news is said to have created general joy among the country people.

November 4.—The Royal Regiment of Horse Guards Blue reviewed in Sneinton Meadow (then uninclosed), by General Elliott, the gallant defender of Gibraltar, in the presence of the Duke of Rutland, the Marquis of Granby, and a prodigious concourse of people.

December 7.—About four in the afternoon, a man, who appeared to be either drunk or mad, called at a house at Nuttall, and swearing it was his own, began to break the tables, chairs, and whatever he could lay his hands upon, to the great surprise of the owner, who, with the assistance of two or three of his neighbours, at length succeeded in securing him. After being kept two hours in the stocks, he was taken before Sir Charles Sedley, Bart., of the Temple, and said that he was a deserter from General Hawley's regiment of dragoons, and got his living as well as he could by strolling about the country. Sir Charles, considering him a dangerous person, told him that he should be sent to the House of Correction at Southwell, and be publicly advertised. The man then appeared alarmed, and told a bystander that the consequence would be he should be hanged, for he had lately committed murder. Information was received next day of an aged woman named Sarah Wass, housekeeper to Mr. Wm. Wood, of Warsop, having been brutally murdered. She was found lying in the house with her skull frightfully fractured. The supposed murderer was re-examined on the following Saturday by Sir Charles Sedley, and the lap of his coat being discovered to be much stained with blood, he acknowledged himself guilty of the crime, and was fully committed for trial to the County Gaol. So far the solemn requirements of justice seemed likely to be met in the speedy conviction and punishment of the murderer. Strange to state, however, in the following week William Barlow, a labourer, of Upton, with whom the other man could not have had any possible connection, was committed to Nottingham on the same charge. The circumstances which led to his apprehension were these: he was a godson of the deceased widow, and was seen talking with her at the door on the morning of the murder, and was also seen coming out of the house within a few minutes of the barbarous deed being discovered. The public mind became much perplexed. Subsequent disclosures left little room for doubt that Barlow was the guilty party, though neither of the men underwent a trial. At the ensuing March assizes, the former, whose name was found to be John Stowe, was discharged from custody, being evidently a lunatic, and Barlow died in the arms of the gaoler

- 1763 as he was bringing him into the Court. He had acknowledged being present at the commission of the murder, but declared his own innocence, two men having done it without his concurrence.

December 29.—A public meeting was held at the Blackmoor's Head Inn,* "to take into consideration the utility of a new turn-pike road from this town through Wollaton, Trowell, Ilkeston, &c., to Belper." The project being favourably received, and nearly £3000 subscribed, it was agreed to apply to Parliament for the necessary powers.

1764.

- 1764 *March.*—The county magistrates met at the Blackmoor's Head Inn to receive tenders for the re-erection of the Leen bridge, in Red Lion-square.† The specifications provided that the materials of the old bridge (which contained twenty-three arches and extended 600 feet) should be used in the foundation and inside works of the new structure, "the situation of which is to face the Hollow-stone, and the pier of the buttment-arch next the town of Nottingham to range with Mr. Reed's garden wall, the river Leen to be turned through the centre-arch, a new cut to be three feet deep and fifteen feet wide." The contractor was Mr. Thompson, of Lichfield, who had recently repaired the churches of St. Mary and St. Peter. A writer in the *Journal* of June 2nd, observes: "The number of persons resorting to see the foundation of the new bridge over the Leen is so great that the workmen are much incommoded. It has been reckoned by an able calculator that the framework-knitters alone, who daily spend so much time there in viewing the hard and dangerous labour of others, might, if the same hours were properly employed in their frames, earn a sum sufficient to defray the expense of rebuilding the bridge, amounting in the whole to £900."

June 7.—Some of the prisoners in the County Gaol formed a design to escape. At the head of the confederacy was James Rutland, who had been condemned to death at the assizes for a burglary, but was reprieved for transportation. About twelve at night, Francis Cobey, a prisoner for deer stealing, being awakened by a strange noise, which he thought proceeded from the lower part of the gaol, where the felons were confined, and lying himself in a

* The Blackmoor's Head was the principal inn in the town. It stood at the south-west corner of Pelham-street, and the premises extended as nearly as high as Thurland-street, and along High-street nearly as far as High-street place. A pair of large folding gates stood at the upper end in Pelham-street, and there was another entrance gate in High-street, nearly facing the entrance to the Shambles.

† In an inquisition taken about the Leen Bridge in the thirty-sixth of Henry the Eighth, by whom the property belonging to the hospital of St. John was seized, it is expressed, that "the said great bridge over the Leen, has, from time immemorial, been upheld and repaired by the town of Nottingham, and the several wapentakes or hundreds of the county; the town keeping the two northern arches in repair, and part of the crown between the second and third; and the different hundreds of the county the other eighteen, according to their several proportions," which it is unnecessary to enumerate, as the Commissioners for the Flood-road have since taken charge of the whole.

room under that where Mr. Parr, the gaoler, slept, he with some difficulty aroused him. The gaoler instantly got out of bed and alarmed the turnkey, and with other assistance they went down to "the Dungeon," where they found the first door broken down, and the second, though extremely strong (being nearly four inches thick and well secured with iron bars), sawn almost in two, so that the convicts within were very near effecting their escape, having filed off their irons and made every possible provision for a flight. On being properly secured, they confessed that their design was to come up into the gaol yard, get possession of the well rope, cut away the bars of the iron window in the kitchen, or, if this was impracticable, force their way into the lower yard, and then let themselves down one by one into Narrow-marsh, over the noted wall called "The Lover's Leap."

July 12.—John Higgins, aged 20, apprenticed to Mr. Dudley Potter, woolcomber, being "crossed in love," hung himself with the handkerchief of his fair enamorata, at his master's house in St. James's-street. The jury at the coroner's inquisition bringing in a verdict of *felo de se*, the corpse was buried where the roads meet at the top of Derby-road.

July 18.—The Nottingham Flying Machine was attacked near Holloway by two highwaymen, who demanded the money or the lives of the passengers. The guard, however, mortally wounded one of them, and the other rode off. Two balls were extracted from the wounded man previous to death.

August 24.—The High Sheriff opened a court at the County Hall, and adjourned it to the Race-stand on the Forest, for the election of a Coroner in the place of Mr. Daniel Newton, deceased. The result of two days' poll of the county freeholders was as follows:—

For Mr. George Hodgkinson, of Southwell	...	426
Mr. Thomas Allen, of Ollerton	...	318

A grand ball was held at the Assembly Rooms, Low-pavement, in connection with the election. The ball was opened by Mr. Thoroton, M.P. for Newark, and Miss Chudleigh (the notorious Mrs. Harvey) dancing a minuet. The assembly was remarkably gay and splendid, including the Duke of Kingston, and other leading members of the aristocracy.

September 29.—Alderman Henry Butler entered a fourth time upon the office of Mayor.

November 26.—The Right Hon. Lord Byron, Master of His Majesty's Staghounds, turned out a fine stag on the Nottingham Race-course, amidst thousands of spectators. The noble animal ran thirty miles in less than three hours, over a very rough country, and crossed the Leen, the Erewash, and the Trent. It was taken in attempting to cross the Soar, in the presence of nearly fifty horsemen.

- 1764 *December 15.*—A correspondent of the *Journal* of this date thus graphically alludes to the state of the road to Mansfield:—
 “I find that an application to Parliament is proposed for a turnpike from Nottingham to Mansfield, and I hope it will meet with no obstruction. The present road is exceedingly bad, and even dangerous in some places. Several accidents have happened thereon within these two or three years past, and for want of more conspicuous marks strangers have frequently mistaken their way, been benighted, and lost for many hours,—a situation most uncomfortable and melancholy to those who have experienced it. A good turnpike road would effectually remedy these evils, by making it more easy and safe to travellers than it now is, and would likewise be a certain guide to them over the wide Forest, even in the night time.”

1765.

- 1765 *January 26.*—Fatal duel between Lord Byron, of Newstead Abbey, and William Chaworth, Esq., of Annesley Hall. The circumstances connected with this lamentable affair were as follows:—When in London a number of Nottinghamshire gentlemen were in the habit of meeting at the Star and Garter Tavern, in Pall Mall, once a month, at what was called “The Nottinghamshire Club.” A meeting at the above-mentioned date consisted of John Thornhaugh Hewitt, Esq., who sat as chairman, Lord Byron, the Hon. Thomas Willoughby, Sir Robert Burdett, Frederick Montagu, Esq., John Sherwin, Esq., Francis Molineux, Esq., William Chaworth, Esq., George Donston, Esq., and Charles Mellish, jun., Esq. Their usual hour of dining was soon after four, and the rule of the club was to have the bill and a bottle brought in at seven. Till about the hour of departure all was joviality and good humour; but Mr. Hewitt, who was toast-master, happening to start some conversation about the best method of preserving game, setting the law in being for that purpose out of the question, the subject was taken up by Mr. Chaworth and Lord Byron, who broached different opinions; the former insisting on the necessity of severity against poachers and unqualified persons, and the latter declaring that the way to have most game was to take no care of it at all. Mr. Hewitt’s opinion was, that the most effectual way would be to make game the property of the owner of the soil. The debate became general, but was carried on with acrimony only between Lord Byron and Mr. Chaworth. The latter, in confirmation of his opinion, said that Sir Charles Sedley and himself had more game on five acres than Lord Byron had on all his manors. Lord Byron, in reply to this, proposed a bet of one hundred guineas, and Mr. Chaworth called for pen, ink, and paper to properly place it on record. Sherwin, however, treating it in a jesting manner as a could never be decided, no bet was laid and the conver-

resumed. Mr. Chaworth asserted that were it not for Sir Charles Sedley's care and his own, his lordship would not have a hare on his estate; and Lord Byron asking, with a smile, what Sir Charles Sedley's manors were, was answered by his opponent, "Nuttal and Bulwell." Lord Byron did not dispute Nuttal, but rejoined that Bulwell was his; on which Mr. Chaworth with some heat replied, "If you want information with respect to Sir Charles Sedley's manors, he lives at Mr. Cooper's, in Dean-street, and I doubt not will be ready to give you satisfaction; and as for myself, your lordship knows where to find me, in Berkeley-row;" or words to that effect. This form of address admitted of no reply, and at once put an end to the subject of discourse. Every gentleman present fell into converse with his neighbour, and nothing more was said generally till Mr. Chaworth called to settle the reckoning, as was his usual practice. In doing this, Mr. Fynmore, the master of the tavern, observed him a little flurried, for in marking he made a small mistake. The book had lines ruled in checks, and against the name of each member present an 0 was placed, but if absent 5s. was put down. He placed 5s. against Lord Byron's name, but Mr. Fynmore observing to him that his lordship was present, he corrected the mistake. In a few minutes after this, Mr. Chaworth having paid his reckoning went out and was followed by Mr. Donston, who entered into conversation with him at the top of the stairs. Mr. Chaworth asked him particularly if he had attended to the altercation between himself and Lord Byron, and if he thought he had been "short" in what he said to him. To which Mr. Donston rejoined, "No, but you went rather too far for so trifling an occasion, though I don't believe Lord Byron or the company will think anything more of it." After a little more ordinary discourse they parted. Mr. Donston returned to the company, and Mr. Chaworth turned to go down stairs; but just as Mr. Donston entered the door he met Lord Byron coming out, and they passed, as there was a large screen that covered the door, without recognizing each other. Lord Byron found Mr. Chaworth still on the stairs, and it is not certain whether he called upon Chaworth, or Chaworth upon him. It is, however certain that both descended to the first landing place, having dined upon the second floor, and that both called the waiter to show them into an empty room. The waiter did as he was desired, and having first opened the door himself, and placed a small tallow candle which he had in his hand on the table, he retired. The combatants entered, and pulled the door after them. In a very few minutes the affair was decided. The bell was rung, but by whom is uncertain. The waiter went up, and perceiving what had happened ran down stairs frightened, and told his master of the catastrophe. The latter instantly ran upstairs, ^{and} standing close together. Mr. Chaworth ^{and}, and Lord Byron held his in his ^{round} round Mr. Chaworth, and Chaworth's

1765

1765 right arm was round Byron's neck and over his shoulders. He desired Fynmore to take his sword, and Byron delivered up his at the same time. One or both called to him to send for assistance immediately, and in a few minutes a surgeon named Hawkins was in attendance. In the meantime, Mr. Montagu, Mr. Hewitt, Mr. Donston, Mr. Willoughby, Mr. Molineux, and Mr. Sherwin had entered the room. The account Mr. Chaworth then gave was, "That he could not live many hours, that he forgave Lord Byron and hoped the world would; that the affair had passed in the dark, only a small tallow candle burning in the room; and that Byron asked him if he meant the conversation on the game to apply to Sir Charles Sedley or to him. To this he replied, 'If you have anything to say we had better shut the door;' that while he was doing this Byron bid him draw, and in turning he saw his lordship's sword half drawn, on which he whipped out his own and made the first pass. His sword passing through Byron's waistcoat, he thought he had killed him, and asked whether he was not mortally wounded; Byron, while he was speaking, shortened his sword and stabbed him in the belly." When Mr. Hawkins, the surgeon, came in, he found Mr. Chaworth sitting by the fire with the lower part of his waistcoat open, his shirt bloody, and his hand upon the wound. He was very earnest to know if Hawkins thought him in immediate danger. Being answered in the affirmative, he desired his uncle Levinz might be sent for that he might settle his private affairs; and in the meantime gave Hawkins a copious description of what had passed, differing but slightly from that already given. He said, however, that when he perceived his lordship shorten his sword to return the thrust he endeavoured to parry it with his left hand, at which he looked twice, imagining he had cut it in the attempt. He felt the sword enter his body and go deeply into his back, but being the stronger man he struggled with his lordship, and succeeding in disarming him, said he feared he had mortally wounded him. Byron replied by expressing similar concern respecting him, adding, at the same time, that he hoped now he would allow him to be as brave a man as any in England. Mr. Chaworth closed his statement to Mr. Hawkins in these words, "I would rather be in my present situation than live under the misfortune of having killed another person." After a short interval the unfortunate gentleman seemed to recover strength, and was removed to his own house, where Mr. Adair, another surgeon, Mr. Mann, an apothecary, and Dr. Addington, his physician, came to the assistance of Mr. Hawkins. No relief, however, could be imparted, though he continued sensible to the moment of his death. Mr. Levinz having also arrived, Mr. Partington, an attorney, was sent for to make his will, for which he gave very rational and distinct instructions. While Partington was thus employed he gave Mr. Levinz, at his request, a similar account of the disaster to that given to Mr. Hawkins, lamenting at the same time his own folly in fighting in

the dark. This conveyed the idea that, by fighting with a dim light he lost the advantage of his own superiority in swordsmanship, and had been led into the mistake that he had penetrated the breast of his lordship when his sword was only entangled in his waistcoat. He added to Mr. Levinz that he died as a man of honour, and was more satisfied in his present situation than he should be in having the life of another to answer for. Mr. Partington, when he had finished the will, and had seen it properly signed, recollected that probably he might one day be called upon to give testimony to the dying words of his client, and accordingly, with the caution highly characteristic of a lawyer, committed to writing the last words Mr. Chaworth was heard to utter. This document was annexed:—"Sunday morning, the 27th of January, about three of the clock, Mr. Chaworth said, that my lord's sword was half drawn, and that he knowing the man, immediately, or as quick as he could, whipt out his sword and had the first thrust; that then my lord wounded him and he disarmed my lord, who then said, by G——d, I have as much courage as any man in England." The unfortunate gentleman died soon afterwards in great pain. Some time after this unhappy affair, Lord Byron surrendered himself to be tried by his peers. On the 16th of the following April, about half-past nine in the morning, his lordship, escorted by parties of the Horse and Foot Guards, and attended by the Lieutenant-Governor and Constable of the Tower, was conveyed to Westminster Hall, where the trial took place; and in the evening, between five and six, his lordship was conducted back to the Tower in the same manner. The trial occupied two days. Among other formalities, the Gentleman-Gaoler on the passage to the Hall carried an axe before him, and stood with it during the trial on the left hand of the accused with its edge turned from him. When the prisoner approached the bar he made three "reverences," and then fell upon his knees, but was ordered to rise, which he did, and then bowed to the peers, who returned the compliment. The indictment charged him with feloniously, wilfully, and of malice aforethought, killing and murdering William Chaworth. His lordship pleaded "not guilty," and demanded to be tried "by God and his peers." The Lord High Steward, Robert, Earl of Northington, presided, and the Attorney-General, Sir Fletcher Norton, Knt., conducted the prosecution. The circumstances came out as before related. In his defence, the accused threw himself on the kind consideration of his peers, and said, "Mr. Chaworth drew his sword and made a thrust at me, which I parried; he made a second, which also missed of its effect; and then finding myself with my back against the table with great disadvantage of the light, I endeavoured to shift a little more to the right hand, which unavoidably brought us nearer to each other, and gave me an opportunity to perceive that the deceased gentleman was making a third pass at me. We both thrust at the same time, when I found Mr. Chaworth's sword against my ribs, having

1765 cut my waistcoat and shirt for upwards of eight inches ; and I suppose it was then that he received the unhappy wound, which I shall ever reflect upon with the utmost regret." The lords, upon their honour, declared him guilty of manslaughter, but not of murder ; and his lordship being called upon to say why sentence should not be passed upon him according to law, pleaded the statute of Edward the Sixth, and was discharged from custody on paying the usual fees.

June 3.—William Wilson, a breeches maker, residing at the lower end of Castle-gate, committed suicide by thrusting a knife into his abdomen. The coroner's jury returned a verdict of *felo de se*, the corpse was interred with a stake driven through it in the public highway.

July 12.—The Marquis of Rockingham placed at the head of the administration.

September 29.—Alderman William Cooper elected Mayor.

December 13.—Thomas Holles, Duke of Newcastle, took the customary oaths at St. James's, London, on being appointed Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Nottingham, and of the town and county of the town of Nottingham.

December 18.—At the interment of the remains of Mr. Alderman Fellows, at St. Mary's, instead of the usual scarfs given at funerals the pall-bearers and others, to the number of eighteen, were presented with scarfs of a new material (certainly a novel way of introducing it to public notice) : they were of the finest China silk, and were made in the stocking frame. A contemporary record describes them as looking "extremely well."

The manor of Clifton, near Nottingham, was inclosed this year.

Death of Thomas Smith, Esq., the descendant of an ancient family, which, from 1690 to about this period, lived at Broxtowe Hall, and was closely connected by marriage with the Collins, of whom the present Lord Carrington is a descendant. Mr. Smith was an officer in the Duke of Kingston's Light Horse, and was at the battle of Culloden, and afterwards commanded a troop in the Duke of Cumberland's Dragoons, with which regiment he served several years on the Continent. Mr. Smith spent a considerable portion of his time at his mansion in Pilcher-gate. Soon after his decease, the Broxtowe estate was sold to Lord Middleton for the sum of £28,000.

1766.

1766 An Act of Parliament was passed at this date (6 Geo. III., c. 29), which provided that "all framework-knitted pieces or stockings made of thread, cotton, worsted, or yarn, or any mixture of the said materials, except made of silk only, which shall contain three or more threads, shall be marked with the same number of eyelet holes in one direct line in the same course, so as they shall

not exceed three inches from the extreme eyelet holes," and a penalty of £5 was imposed for false marking, or exposing for sale any goods not marked as required by the statute. This Act was obtained under the hope that the public would be enabled to form an estimate of the quality of the goods from the number of eyelet holes, as it was supposed that stockings having no eyelet holes, being made of two threads, would be a sufficient distinction. The hosiers evaded the enactment by marking their two-thread stockings as three or four threads, to which it did not apply, as it was held to embrace such fabrics only as contained "three or more threads."

July 30.—Execution of James Bromage and William Wainer. The former was a gentleman's servant out of place, and his companion in infamy was a framework-knitter, and worked at the shop of a Mr. Harris (now the White Lion public house), Hollowstone. Wainer had borne an excellent character, and in his station of life had been much respected; but being disappointed in an attachment he wished to form with his master's daughter, he fled, half distracted, into Leicestershire, where, meeting with Bromage, he agreed to join him in the hazardous career of highwaymen, and their exploits soon rendered them notorious in this and the neighbouring counties. They robbed a Mr. Robert Hall, of Durham, near Red-hill, on the Mansfield-road, and thence proceeded towards Coventry, near which place they plundered the Chester coach, and were soon afterwards apprehended in Coventry. Being identified as the robbers of Mr. Hall, they were brought to Nottingham, and capitally convicted. The convicts were two fine looking young men. On the morning of their execution they were taken to St. Mary's church, where they heard "the condemned sermon," and thence to their graves, in which they were permitted to lie down to see if they would fit. They then walked to the place of execution in their shrouds. The ashy paleness of their faces and the dazzling whiteness of the cerements in which they were enshrouded, as they reflected the summer's sun, seemed rather to indicate an escape from the dominion of death than an impending subjection to it.

September 16.—John Moore, a stocking-maker, in attempting to descend a precipitous rock near the back of St. Mary's poor-house to speak with a young woman in the yard below, unfortunately fell into a pig-cote, and was killed on the spot.

September 29.—Alderman Robie Swann elected Mayor.

October.—The popular outbreak known as "the great cheese riot." The farmers demanded from 28s. to 30s. per cwt., a price deemed highly excessive. The people were so exasperated that their violence broke loose like a torrent; cheeses were rolled down Wheeler-gate and Peck-lane in abundance, many others were carried away, and the Mayor, in endeavouring to restore peace, was knocked down with one in the open fair. The Fifteenth Dragoons (a regiment formed out of the Duke of Kingston's

1766 Light Horse) were sent for; and acted with great vigour in quelling the tumult, which was not fully subdued until blood had been shed. One man, William Eggleston, of Car Colston, whilst guarding some cheese, was killed on the spot by the fire of a dragoon, and others received injuries. A number of persons were apprehended on suspicion of being parties to the riot, but all of them were afterwards liberated.

Up to this year, the highway known as the Flood-road (London-road) bore a widely different appearance from that now presented. The traveller had to wind his way round two large pools, except in times of high water, when there was a road over them on wooden bridges, which had been erected for the purpose. When the road round the pools was dry, chains were secured across the bridges that went over them; hence the derivation of their name. That farthest from the town was called the "Chainy Pool;" the other, about 140 yards nearer, was known as the "Chainy Flash." This year both bridges were rebuilt. From this date up to about 1790, near the Flash, where the Seven Arches now stand, was a side-bridge, secured by a gate, through which no vehicle was allowed to pass without paying toll. This bridge was to the east of the road, and on the west was a long line of planks raised by its side for the accommodation of pedestrians. About 1790, the structure known as the Ten Arch Bridge was erected. The great flood of 1795 rendering it very insecure, it was superseded in the following year by the Seven Arches, the massive erection which still exists, and promises to do so many years to come.

The followers of the Rev. John Wesley made their first essay in chapel building this year, by erecting "The Tabernacle," or, as it was more commonly called, "The Octagon," from its having eight sides. It stood very near what is now termed Octagon-place, between Milton-street and Mount East-street. The receipt for the sum it cost runs thus:—"Received the 8th day of September, 1767, of the Rev. Mr. Thomas Johnson and the Rev. Mr. James Clough, the sum of one hundred and twenty eight pounds two shillings and sevenpence, in full, for building the meeting house in Nottingham. John Nixon."

From the period of Mr. Wesley preaching his first sermon in Nottingham to the building of the Tabernacle, twenty-five years had elapsed. Mr. Wesley preached in it soon after it was opened, and it may be remarked here that the first time he addressed a Nottingham audience (1741) was in the house of Mr. James, Pelham-street, and that his last discourse (1788) was delivered in Hockley chapel. The tabernacle was sold to the General Baptists in 1782, when the chapel in Hockley was erected. The purchasers, on their removal to Plumtre-place, sold it to a cowkeeper named Barnes, and it was soon afterwards taken down.

1767.

The Rev. Samuel Martin, M.A., appointed rector of St. Peter's. 1767

The Rev. George Beaumont, LL.B., inducted to the rectory of St. Nicholas.

February.—Mr. T. Bailey, in one of his interesting sketches illustrative of the changes in local society, &c., gives the following description of the observance of Shrovetide at Aspley old hall, near Nottingham, in 1767 :—" At this date, Aspley Hall was the residence of an old gentleman and lady, members of the family at Wollaton Hall, who were always recognized under the titles of his 'Honour and Madam Willoughby.' The worthy old 'Squire,' for such in truth was his proper rank and title in society, retained, along with his attachment to the 'old religion' of the country, for he was a strict and conscientious Roman Catholic, marked predilection for that generous and promiscuous hospitality and condescending familiarity on particular occasions with persons in humble life, so characteristic of the manners and habits of English country gentlemen a century ago. At Shrovetide it was the custom of the hall to provide batter and lard, fire, and frying pans, for all the poor families of Wollaton, Trowell, and Cossall, who chose to come and eat their pancakes at his honour's mansion. The only conditions attached to the feast were, that no quarrelling should take place, and that each wife and mother should fry for her own family, and that when the cake needed turning in the pan, the act should be performed by tossing it in the air and catching it again in the pan with the uncooked side downwards. And many were the roars of laughter which took place among the merry groups in the kitchen at the mishaps which occurred in the performance of this feat, in which his honour and madam heartily joined. Sometimes the unfortunate pancake came slap upon the floor; sometimes it fell across the edge of the pan, half in and half out, and had to be gathered up in the best way it could. When these disasters befel the younger wives and mothers of the assembly, which was most generally the case owing to their want of experience, the old couple would playfully remark, amidst the general titter of those around, that the defaulter would do better by the time she had half-a-dozen more children to fry for. As no stint was put upon any person or family in respect of how much they should eat, the visitors generally took away what they came for, a good feast of Madam Willoughby's pancakes. To preserve order as well as to enjoy the humour of the scene his honour and madam always graced the kitchen with their presence, seated in large high-backed chairs, and dressed each in one of their best holiday suits. Beside the squire and his lady was generally seen, through most of the entertainments, a pale thoughtful-looking man in black, who at intervals pronounced a

1767 benediction on the food, and whose presence at the hall was a mystery to most of the villagers round; as he was never known to visit at any of the houses in the neighbourhood, and seldom was seen far from the precincts of the house, except it might be when indulging in a ramble in the adjoining wood. This person was in truth a Roman Catholic priest kept in the house, not only to conduct the devotions of the family, but likewise to perform mass on those stated days when the small flock of Catholics from Nottingham, who at that time had no place of public worship in the town, were assembled, as was their wont, in the private chapel of Aspley Hall. In addition to the pancakes each man was allowed a quart of good ale, women a pint, and children a gill. There being as little stint put by the worthy host and hostess on gossip and good-humoured pleasantry among the rustics as on their eating, and their being uniformly about eight or ten families in the kitchen at one time, either waiting for or partaking of the products of the four or five frying pans that were always kept going at the wide fire grate, the utmost hilarity and cheerfulness prevailed throughout the whole day. It was indeed a real rural carnival; a day towards which scores of villagers, and more especially the junior branches, looked forward every year with feelings of greatest delight."

August 17.—Execution of Robert Downe. This unfortunate man was but one degree from being in a state of idiocy. He was a native of Eckington, in Derbyshire, and was accustomed to wander about the country from place to place, making melody with a flute as a means of livelihood. To this vagrant life he superadded a habit of indulging in petty depredations, so that, where most known he was least esteemed. He was also very irritable; being one day at Mansfield the sport of some lads, who were annoying him in every possible way, he ran after them with an open knife, and stabbed one of them, who was deaf and dumb, so severely as to occasion his death almost instantly. Downe made no effort to escape, and suffered himself to be taken, scarcely seeming sensible that he had committed a crime. He was executed on Gallows-hill, and his body, after dissection, was hung in chains on Mansfield Forest, near the spot where the murder was perpetrated.

August 30.—Another victim for the gallows in the person of Thomas Reynolds. This was a man of brutal and vicious character, who possessed a deal of low cunning, and who, from his connection and influence with thieves, was regarded as a practitioner of the Jonathan Wild school. The circumstances which led him to a dishonoured grave were these:—It happened that Samuel Brown, a framework-knitter, who kept a shop of frames at his house in Chesterfield-street, and with whom Reynolds worked as a journeyman, had acquired a large sum of money by introducing into the town a circulation of spurious coin, called "Brown's halfpence." Reynolds, aware of this, formed a project of sharing in the illicit

profits. Accordingly, the premises were robbed of property to a considerable amount. Being suspected, however, his house in Crosland's-court, Narrow-marsh, was searched, and nearly the whole of the missing property was found therein. He and a confederate named Wood were tried together for the offence, and being adjudged guilty, he was sentenced to be hung, and his companion to transportation for life. At the place of execution he denied being guilty of the robbery, but acknowledged that he merited death for another crime: this was believed to be the murder of his wife. 1767

September.—A framework-knitter of the town, named John Shore, gave information to the magistrates, about this period, of a murder committed many years previous under the following extraordinary circumstances:—It is necessary to premise, that on the morning of the 22nd September, 1741, John Clarke, a young labourer in the service of Mrs. Blee, a widow, who occupied the premises at St. Ann's Well, hearing a noise among his mistress's poultry in the farm yard, became suspicious of something being wrong. It was past midnight, and having little doubt of thieves being about, he left his bed and went down into the yard, but had scarcely entered it ere a gun was fired at him, with an aim so deadly as to literally blow his skull to atoms. The murderers escaped, and although a verdict of wilful murder against persons unknown was returned by the coroner's jury, yet no discovery had been made of the perpetrators of the horrid deed. Shore gave testimony that, to his certain knowledge, the murder was committed by John Wilkins, James Cuff, and two others, all soldiers in General Churchill's Regiment of Dragoons, then quartered in the town, and that he knew they had been out deer stealing, but having been unsuccessful they determined to have some of Widow Blee's geese on their return, but in this they were disappointed by the appearance of the unfortunate Clarke. A diligent search was now made for the accused parties. Wilkins and Cuff were apprehended a few days after, and brought to the Town Gaol, having been found in the neighbourhood of London, as out-pensioners of Chelsea Hospital, but from the other parties being dead sufficient evidence was not found to convict upon, and they were again suffered to escape. However, one of them, soon after on his death-bed made an acknowledgment of the guilt of all four.

September 29.—Alderman James Hornbuckle elected Mayor.

This year is memorable as the date of the introduction of Hargreaves's "spinning jenny," the first great discovery in the manufacture of cotton. This machine enabled a spinner to spin eight threads with the same facility that one had been previously; and the machine was subsequently brought to such perfection as to enable a little girl to work no fewer than from eighty to one hundred and twenty spindles. It is supposed that there is no individual to whom the manufacturers of this country are so largely indebted as to James Hargreaves. Never was the maxim,

1767 *c'est le premier pas que coûte*, more completely verified than on this occasion. No sooner had it been seen what a simple mechanical contrivance could effect than the attention of ingenious men was immediately awakened to the subject, and the path was opened by following which so many important discoveries and inventions have been made. But however much Hargreaves's inventions (the spinning jenny not being the only one) may have tended to enrich others, to himself they were productive of little but disaster and distress. The moment the intelligence transpired that he had invented a machine by which the spinning of cotton was greatly facilitated, an ignorant and infuriated mob, composed chiefly of persons engaged in that employment, broke into his house and destroyed his model; and some time after, when experience had fully demonstrated the superiority of the jenny, the Blackburn mob again resorted to violence, and not only broke into Hargreaves's house, but into the houses of most of those who had adopted his machines, which were everywhere proscribed. In consequence of this continued persecution Hargreaves removed from Blackburn to Nottingham, and here he built, with the assistance of Mr. Thomas James, a small factory at the top of Mill-street.* Here, having obtained a patent, he constructed a new jenny to spin eighty-four threads at once. He had scarcely, however, put his machinery into operation ere his invention was pirated by some Nottingham rivals, who, having been cotton spinners by the old method, were anxious to retain the whole of their trade. The patent was also infringed upon by several of the Lancashire manufacturers, and Hargreaves gave all the parties notice of actions against them. The Nottingham spinners formed a powerful coalition with the hosiers, but the Lancashire pirates endeavoured to effect a compromise. With this in view, they sent a delegate, who offered Hargreaves £3,000 for permission to use his machine, but the inventor at first demanded £7,000, and at last stood out for £4,000. The negotiation being broken off the actions proceeded; but before they came to a trial, the patentee's attorney discovered that his client, before leaving Lancashire, had sold some jennies to obtain clothing for his children, and was obliged in consequence to give up the actions despairing of obtaining a verdict. The subsequent history of Hargreaves is thus represented:—Mr. John James,† the son of Mr. Thomas James, joiner (Mr. Hargreaves's partner), who died on the 29th of April, 1836, in the 93rd year of his age, remembered Hargreaves very well: he was, he said, "a stout, broad-set

* The structure stands at the north-east corner of Mill-street (Wollaton-street) and is of a very unpretending character. It has been converted into small dwelling-houses. The house in which Mr. Hargreaves lived was situated on the opposite side of the street.

† Mr. John James died in Lambley Hospitals, and had been a cotton spinner himself. He was a Junior Councilman of the old Corporation, to which office he was elected on the death of Mr. John Alleyne, in 1793. In the early part of his life he distinguished himself as an active partisan of the old Blue or Tory interest; and was the last survivor of the six equestrians who, in blue silk dresses, took part in the procession in compliment to the late John Lacock Storey, Esq., on his return from London in 1770 after his successful application to the Court of King's Bench for the reappointment of a Junior Council.

man, about five feet ten inches high. He first worked in Nottingham with Mr. Shipley, about 1768, and here my father first met with him. He was making jennies for Shipley, who then wished to go into the cotton spinning. My father prevailed upon him to leave Shipley, and embark with him in a new concern; and money was borrowed by my father, principally on the mortgage of some freehold property, on which they were to erect their mill. The mill was erected and two dwelling-houses, in one of which my father resided, and in the other was Mr. Hargreaves's family up to the time of his death. I myself paid Mrs. Hargreaves £400 from my father on the death of her husband." The widow, having other property which Hargreaves had accumulated, bequeathed the whole of the sum to her children. Hargreaves died on the 22nd of April, 1778, aged 60 years. 1767

1768.

Richard Arkwright, the inventor of the spinning frame, 1768 became a resident of Nottingham. This eminent cotton spinner was born in 1732, at Preston, in Lancashire. His parents were very poor, and he was the youngest of a family of thirteen children; so that we may suppose the school education he received, if he ever was at school at all, to have been extremely limited. Indeed, but little learning would probably be deemed necessary for the profession to which he was bred, that of a barber. This business he continued to follow till he was nearly 30 years of age. About the year 1760, or soon after, he gave up his humble trade, and commenced business as an itinerant dealer in hair, collecting the commodity by travelling up and down the country, and then, after he had dressed it, selling it again to the wig makers, with whom he very soon acquired the character of keeping a better article than any of his competitors. The precise era of Arkwright's discovery in spinning is not known; but it is most probable that the felicitous idea of spinning by rollers had occurred to his mind at the period when Hargreaves was engaged in the manufacture of the jenny, or almost immediately after. Not being himself a practical mechanic, Arkwright employed a person of the name of John Kay, a watchmaker at Warrington, to assist him in the preparation of parts of his machine. His invention being at length brought into a pretty advanced state, Arkwright, accompanied by Day, and a Mr. Smalley, of Preston, removed to Nottingham in 1768, in order to avoid the attack of the same lawless rabble that had driven away Hargreaves. Arkwright's operations here were at first greatly fettered by a want of capital. At length, a command of the necessary funds was obtained by means of a connection with Messrs. Strutt and Need,* and Arkwright proceeded to erect a mill. This, the first cotton mill

* Reference is made to this at page 25.

1768 in the world, was built on a piece of ground between Woolpack-lane and Hockley.* The machinery was driven by horses. Arkwright took out a patent for spinning by rollers in 1769. Working the machinery by horse power proving too expensive, and steam being scarcely known, the town lost the benefit of being the cradle of the invention in 1771, by Arkwright removing to Cromford, where he had built a second factory on a much larger scale, the machinery of which was turned by a water wheel.

It would be needless to enter minutely into the details of Arkwright's subsequent career. He became a very wealthy man. His partnership with the Messrs. Strutt terminated about 1783, and it was agreed that he should retain the works at Cromford, and Messrs. Strutt the works at Belper, which are still conducted by surviving members of the family. In 1786, Arkwright was appointed High Sheriff of Derbyshire; and having presented an address of congratulation to the King from that county, on his escape from the attempt of Margaret Nicholson on his life, he received the honour of knighthood. Sir Richard died at his house at Cromford, August 3rd, 1792, in the 60th year of his age. The most marked traits in the character of Arkwright were his wonderful ardour, energy, and perseverance. He commonly laboured in his multifarious concerns from five o'clock in the morning till nine at night; and when considerably more than fifty years of age, feeling that the defects of his education placed him under great difficulty and inconvenience in conducting his correspondence, and in the general management of his business, he encroached upon his sleep in order to gain one hour each day to learn English grammar, and another to improve his writing and orthography. He was impatient of whatever interfered with his favourite pursuits; and the fact is too strikingly characteristic not to be mentioned, that he separated from his wife not many years after their marriage; because she, being convinced that he would starve his family by scheming when he should have been shaving, broke some of his experimental models of machinery. Arkwright was a severe economist of time; and, that he might not waste a moment, he generally travelled with four horses, and at a very rapid speed. He had extensive concerns in Derbyshire, Lancashire, and Scotland; and his speculative schemes, which were vast and daring, generally proved advantageous. The efforts which he put forth in establishing his machinery were the more remarkable from being made while in bad health. During the whole of his career he was labouring under a very severe asthmatic affection.

Mr. Richard Arkwright, the son of Sir Richard, succeeded to all his possessions, estimated at the value of about half a million sterling. As the profits of cotton spinning then, and for years afterwards, were counted by shillings per pound instead of farthings, as now, except in finer numbers, it may be safely asserted that by

* The mill, which was subsequently burnt down, occupied the site of the present mill in Hockley, opposite the end of Coalpit-lane.

his extensive spinneries in Cromford, Bakewell, and Manchester 1768 alone, he could not have derived a less clear income than £100,000 per year. He died at his seat, Willersley Castle, near Cromford, in 1843, possessed of nearly seven millions sterling in personal property alone, irrespective of landed estates. He was thus the most ponderous capitalist in Europe. In his will there was one line which contained more, perhaps, than one line ever before written: "I bequeath to my son-in-law, Sir R. Wigram, one million sterling." From taste, and not from niggardly notions of saving, he had lived without any ostentatious display: the scale of his household expenditure is said not to have exceeded £3,000 per annum, of which the larger portion was laid out upon his gardens, on which he prided himself; so that by the natural and equitable force of accumulation during fifty-two years, even had not one pound of surplus income been re-invested and made to bear interest, he must still have been possessed of millions.

Two persons of the names of Cranes and Porter obtained a patent for making brocade work upon the stocking-frame, the most beautiful fabric ever wrought thereon. Blackner states that "all the variegated colours of the rainbow were cast into captivating shades; all the tints and curves of the full-blown carnation were displayed in their diversifying splendour; and the twigs and branches of trees were represented in all their intertwining forms." This branch of manufacture has become obsolete. The material was too high-priced, and the fashion of flowered waistcoats ceased to prevail.

September 29.—Alderman William Foulds elected Mayor.

November 17.—Death of Thomas Pelham Holles, Duke of Newcastle, at his house in Lincoln's Inn Fields, aged 75 years.

December.—Henry Fynes Pelham Clinton, Duke of Newcastle, elected to the office of Recorder of Nottingham, vacant by the demise of the previous Duke.

At the general election this year, the Hon. Colonel William Howe and John Plumtre, Esq., were chosen to represent the town; John Thornhaugh Hewitt, Esq., and the Hon. Thomas Willoughby were returned for the county.

1769.

January 9.—The County Hall, on the High-pavement, being 1769 very dilapidated and insecure (remaining in the same state as described in page 14), the magistrates came to the resolution of rebuilding and enlarging it. A petition for an Act of Parliament to give them the necessary powers was consequently agreed upon, and signed by the magistrates and freeholders present.

The necessity for a new gaol had long been felt, though no steps had hitherto been taken by the county to promote it. Deering and Blackner, in their local histories, allude to an occurrence in 1724, which showed even then how bad an opinion

1769 one of the Judges was led to form of the ancient structure. As those writers have only very imperfectly alluded to the circumstance, the following extract from the *Nottingham Courant* of that date may not prove uninteresting:—"On Friday last [March 17, 1724], Sir Littleton Powis, Judge of the Assize, came in here, being met as usual by the High Sheriff, attended by a good number of gentlemen on horseback, though a very rainy day. On Saturday was commission day for the county of the town, but there was no business worth mentioning. On Monday morning, after his lordship had gone into the County Hall, and a great crowd of people being there, a tracing or two that supported the floor broke and fell in, and several people fell in with it about three yards into the cellar underneath, some of whom were a little bruised; but one Fillingham was pretty much hurt, the skin and flesh of one leg being stript up from the bone, and thought to be in danger. This occasioned a great consternation in Court; some apprehending the whole Hall might fall, others crying out fire, &c., which made several people get out of the windows. The Judge, being also terribly frightened, cried out, 'A plot! A plot!' but the consternation being soon over, the Court proceeded to business: however, his lordship told the grand jury and gentleman he would lay a fine of £2,000 on the county for not providing a better hall, not doubting but if they built a new one, or got the old one well repaired, but on their petition his Majesty would remit the fine. At the request of the hon. foreman of the grand jury, we are told, the fine was suspended." Instead of rebuilding the Hall, or paying the fine, the county disputed the Judge's power to impose, and though successful, they spent half as much money in their appeal to the Privy Council as would have provided a better structure. Thirty-five years were suffered to elapse before a new Hall was finally agreed upon. Mr. Gandon, of London, was the architect, and the building, was erected in the course of the following year. The contract was entered into by a builder named Pickford, of Derby, who completed it for the sum of £2,500.

February 17.—Murder of Mr. Thos. Burrill, of Newark. The deceased was a pawnbroker of good property, aged 79 years. A short time before his death he had taken a watch in pawn for 30s., of a man named Hebb, residing at Claypole, who, as it will be seen, suffered death for the injury he subsequently inflicted upon him. Hebb, with his brother and another person, formed a scheme to recover the watch without discharging the lien upon it, but in their first attempt miscarried. However, at the date indicated in the margin, at four in the afternoon, the Hebbs were seen to come out of Burrill's house by several people, and were heard to say that "they had done for the old rogue." Strange as it may appear, no one was known to enter the place till next day, Burrill living alone, when he was found extended on the floor quite dead, having evidently been strangled. Suspicion being

entertained against Hebb and his associates, they fled into Lincolnshire, but were apprehended at Welbourn, and brought to Newark by a strong guard of constables. Their examination before the magistrates occupied twelve hours. At length, William Hebb, one of the three, made a confession. He said that he himself was the murderer, and the other two, Daniel Hebb and Thomas Moore, accessories to the fact. Under pretence of treating the old man they took, he said, some gin with them, into which they had put two ounces of laudanum, and while in a profound sleep they strangled him. They then removed everything from the premises that they could secrete on their persons. The magistrates fully committed them for trial. At the ensuing March Assizes, more than twenty witnesses were examined in relationship to the charge; but the evidence, with the exception of William Hebb's confession, being entirely of a circumstantial nature the jury took a very merciful view of the case, and, acquitting two of the prisoners, found William Hebb alone guilty. And now occurred another of those anomalous departures from established usage so characteristic of the times, and which form so striking a contrast with modern practice. The convict expressed a desire that his cousin Moore, who was tried with him for the murder, "might be allowed to do the last sad office by fixing the rope," for this, he thought, "might have a good effect, and tend greatly to work a reformation in him;" and the authorities were only too happy in indulging his whim. He was tried on the Wednesday, and executed the Friday succeeding. In the interim he appeared quite resigned, expressing no other uneasiness than that arising from his dislike of having to be anatomized; but his friends as was usual in such cases, assuring him that his remains would be interred, the thought gave him no further disquietude. To still further colour the hope of interment his deceiving friends procured a shroud, and had it carried into his cell by the turnkey, which he tried on with all the calmness imaginable. At ten o'clock on Friday morning he began, he said, to think the time for his departure long, wishing for his releasement. A short time after being informed that the clergyman had called to assist him in his devotions, he expressed great joy, and immediately joined him in prayer. The solemn procession set out at eleven o'clock. Hebb and his cousin Moore were placed in the cart, and on the passage through the town and up the hill the dying man appeared surprisingly cheerful. When within sight of the gallows he begged the singers would begin the penitential Psalm, "in which," states the record, "he joined with amazing alacrity, so that his voice was distinguished by the numerous auditors to be superior in strength to all who were engaged in the service." From the gallows the man delivered, in impassioned terms, an admonitory address. Cousin Moore proving too timid to fulfil his task, Hebb had to fix the noose himself, which he was very careful to stretch and properly adjust. Then taking a paper from his

1769 pocket, he kissed it earnestly, pressed it in his right hand, recommended his soul to God who gave it, and in the most heroic manner imaginable launched into the other world. While hanging the paper was taken from his hand, which proved to be a most tender letter from his wife. The corpse was removed to St. Ann's Well, where it was dissected pursuant to the terms of the sentence. The bones of the malefactor, arranged on wires, ornamented the studio of a medical gentleman of the neighbourhood, for many years afterwards.

The annexed account of the salaries, &c., paid out of the Corporation funds from Lady-day, 1768, to Lady-day, 1769, is a faithful transcript of an authentic document, and forms a remarkable contrast with the disbursement of the present day :—

	£	s.	d.
The Chamberlains' Fee	1	6	8
Duplicates for the Rental	0	18	0
Books	0	5	4
Engrossing the Account	0	4	0
The Mayor for the year	60	0	0
The Lord Chief Justice of England receives the			
Exhibition Money for the King's Bench and			
Marshalsea Prisoners, each 20s., and receipts			
2s., in all	2	2	0
The Sheriffs for their chief rent	0	15	4
Same, for their Close	2	13	4
Same, for Tolls given up to the Corporation	12	0	0
The Coroners	0	8	0
The Town Clerk	3	13	4
The Bridgemasters, for the lane to the Malt-mill	2	18	4
The Mace-Bearer	8	0	0
The other Serjeant	8	0	0
The Chief Rent of Lambley Land	0	13	4
The Beadle	6	0	0
The Keeper of the Meadows	4	0	0
The Keeper of the Fields and Woods	2	13	4
St. Peter's Sexton, for ringing four o'clock bell	1	0	0
The Bell-man	0	2	8
The Mayoress for pins	0	6	8
The Mayor for the Fruit Toll	10	10	0
The Mayor for Wine	7	4	0
Michael Kayes, for cleaning the issue of the Leen,			
near the Malt-mill	0	8	0
The Pinder, for part of the Pinder's Fee, sold to			
Mr. Sherwin	0	10	0
To 30 Poor Men and Women of St. Nicholas's			
Parish, interest on Mrs. Bilbie's £20	1	0	0
The Duke of Newcastle, for a way to the Leen	0	10	0
The Deputy Recorder	4	4	0
A Charity given by Lady Grantham	10	10	0
The Town's Waits, 40s. each	8	0	0
For ringing the Mayor's Bell at nine o'clock	0	10	0
Distribution of Bread, per Robinson's Charity	6	0	0
Thomas Widdowson for cleaning Long-stairs	0	10	0
Samuel Upton for mole catching (half-year)	5	0	0
For ringing the Market Bell	0	10	0

April 5.—Death of a Mrs. Butler, aged 92 years, in Narrow-marsh, where, it is remarkable, she had lived all her lifetime.

June 2.—We are induced to notice a marriage that took place this day at Bulwell, viewing it as illustrative of the partiality for

display characteristic of the period. The bridegroom was Mr. Charles Copeland, merchant, and the bride, Fanny, daughter of Mr. Melville, hosier, of the above village. The following order of procession was observed to and from the church. The mother and father of the young lady led the way, followed by her more distant relations, two and two; then came the bridesmaids, and next the bride and bridegroom, succeeded by sixteen of the bride's own sisters and brothers dressed in white, with white favours. After the ceremony the company returned to Mr. Melville's house, and joined in a very elegant entertainment. The newly married pair had each of them seventeen of their own brothers and sisters then living.

August.—Death of Daniel Finch, Earl of Winchelsea and Nottingham. His lordship's great ancestor, Daniel Finch, was created Earl of Nottingham in 1681. This illustrious personage was Lord Chancellor from 1673 to 1682, and was a consummate Equity Judge. His remains lie at Ravenstone, in the county of Buckingham. Daniel, the eldest son, not only succeeded to the title, but on the failure of the elder branch of the Finch family, to the Earldom of Winchelsea also. Both titles are now enjoyed by his lineal representative, the present Earl of Winchelsea and Nottingham.

August.—Inclosure of the manor of Hucknall Torkard. The expense, including the procurement of an Act of Parliament, commissioners' fees, fencing, &c., swallowed up the entire proceeds of the sale of 110 acres of the inclosure.

August 19.—The *Journal* of this date records the remarkable fact that Mrs. Melville, of Bulwell (the mother of the young lady whose marriage is referred to above), was safely delivered of her thirtieth child on the 11th of the month. Mrs. Melville had only recently entered upon her 45th year.

September 27.—The Duke of Kingston having accepted the office of Recorder of Nottingham (which the Duke of Newcastle, elected previously, had respectfully declined), arrived at the Town Hall, attended by a splendid retinue, to undergo the usual installation. The noble Duke was received at the foot of the stairs by the gentlemen of the Body Corporate, and being conducted to the hustings, took the necessary oaths administered to him in the presence of several thousand spectators. His Grace delivered a short speech, thanking the town for the high honour conferred upon him. He then joined with the Corporation in a procession to the Blackmoor's Head, where his Grace had provided a sumptuous entertainment, to which all the gentlemen of the Livery and others were invited.

September 29.—Alderman Humphrey Hollins succeeded to the Mayoralty.

October 11.—A young woman, 19 years of age, having been convicted of obtaining goods under false pretences, was stripped to the waist in the Market-place (it being market day), and

1769 publicly whipped by order of the Court of Quarter Sessions. Public flagellation was the ordinary mode of punishment.

October 16.—The Rev. Samuel Eaton, D.D., died at his residence on the High-pavement, after a lingering illness, in the 67th year of his age. He was a divine of great erudition, and had officiated among the Dissenters in this town more than thirty years.

1770.

1770 *January 13.*—This day, Saturday, another instance of the little regard entertained by the magistracy for public decency was exhibited in the flagellation of a female, who had been detected in stealing pocket handkerchiefs from a draper's shop. The culprit was a young woman in service with a farmer in the country. She was fastened to a cart, and whipped all the way from the Weekday Cross to the Malt Cross in the Market-place.

January 28.—The establishment of the Ministry under Lord North, at this period, forms an epoch in the history of party. By it the Whigs lost the monopoly of power, which they did not recover till sixty years after.

March 30.—The Rev. Nathan Haines, D.D., inducted to the living of St. Mary's, vacant by the death of Dr. Berdmore.

April 14.—A writ of *mandamus*, issued from the Court of King's Bench, was served on the Mayor, and four copies of the same on members of the Corporation, commanding them to assemble forthwith at the Guildhall and elect six burgesses into the office of Common Councilman, according to ancient usage. The privilege of electing Junior or Common Councilmen had not been exercised for forty-eight years. The Corporation had strenuously opposed the application to the Court, and their defeat was naturally a source of great exultation to the anti-Corporate or old Blue Party, who indulged in a great public rejoicing. The six gentlemen who were elected were Messrs. Cornelius Launder, Thomas Frost, John Morriss, Thomas Rawson, Charles Brown, and John Sterland, all of the Blue interest. It was understood that the principal object which induced the suing parties to seek for the re-election of a Junior Council was based on the expectation that the Corporation would be compelled to select their Chamberlains from that body. This might have given them the exclusive privilege of rising to the highest offices, and have caused the election of two Junior Councilmen every year, thus in process of time changing the political complexion of the body. Nor was it long before this question was brought before Lord Mansfield, who had presided at the previous trial; but his lordship informed the Junior Councilmen that they "must be contented in their present stations, as the Mayor, like every other independent gentleman, had a right to choose his own Chamberlains or Stewards."

April 18.—For many years previous to this, the bakers of 1770 this town had been permitted by the Corporation to stack their oven fuel upon Tollhouse-hill, where the Lambley Hospitals and adjacent premises now stand. This fuel consisted chiefly of gorse kids, gathered in immense quantities off the Forest. At the date indicated the stacks were totally destroyed by fire, and the conflagration being very great, and raging in the night time, it created great consternation, so much so indeed that the inhabitants of the villages for miles around came flocking toward the town, imagining that its destruction was inevitable. The Mayor offered a reward of twenty guineas for the conviction of the supposed incendiary.

The only fire engine kept in the town was stationed in the ante-church of St. Mary's. This was so for many years subsequently, and numerous persons living can recollect the sacred edifice being the public fire station.

April 23.—The Shire Hall being in course of re-erection, the Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the county were held in the Guildhall. An old man aged 80, for stealing hay, and a woman named Hawley, for stealing two cotton gowns, were sentenced to be publicly whipped at the Malt Cross.

At the town sessions, the same week, John Lord, for stealing a pair of window curtains from the Crown Inn,* was sentenced to be publicly whipped from the Weekday Cross to the Malt Cross, and back to the Hen Cross, and then discharged.

Having thus shown that neither age nor sex were exempt from the degrading infliction of the whip, it will not be necessary to adduce further instances, unless attended by extraordinary circumstances.

July 11.—Mr. Richard Butler, one of the Coroners, elected an Alderman in the place of Mr. Alderman Robie Swann, merchant, of the Long-row, deceased.

July 12.—Mr. Alexander Caruthers elected to the office of Coroner.

July.—The assize trials for the county were heard in the Guildhall and the Exchange Room. Prisoners were tried in the former, and the cause list was disposed of in the latter.

August 5.—Death of John Willimot, Gent., at Burnham, in Norfolk, the oldest burgess of Nottingham, being in his 98th year. He had been a vintner in the town, but left it, it is said, "in disgust," in 1723. In the year 1754, he came to vote at the contested election for Sir Willoughby Aston and John Plumptre, Esq., attired in a complete suit of light blue velvet, the buttons of which consisted of shillings and sixpences of Queen Anne's reign.

* The Crown Inn was an extensive establishment, including the building on the Long-row, now divided and occupied by the Misses Addicott, milliners, and Mr. Keefe, tailor, and out-buildings in the rear. The structure alluded to is supposed to be five centuries old; the date on its antique front, 1736, merely indicating the time of its renovation. Some of the walls are of an amazing thickness, and the quantity of oak used in its construction is very great, evidencing plainly that the neighbouring forest was laid under heavy contribution. The Crown was a favourite place of resort for the aristocracy, and during the re-erection of the County Hall the weekly petit sessions were held within it.

1770

September 29.—Alderman Richard Butler elected Mayor.*October 30.*—Mr. Nathaniel Whitlock elected to the Senior Council.*November 15.*—The highest flood since the year 1736. The communication with the south over the Meadows was for some time completely cut off, except by means of boats, and the houses in Narrow-marsh were flooded to the height of several feet. The excess of rain caused about twenty tons weight of the rock on Malin-hill to fall into the abyss below to the great terror of the neighbourhood, though fortunately without loss of life.*December 12.*—The wall of a garden at the back of the County Hall suddenly gave way, and was immediately followed into Narrow-marsh by such a quantity of earth as to demolish one tenement and extensively injure another. Providentially, the usual inmates had just left the premises, or they must have been killed, for the furniture and everything within was dashed to pieces.*December 28.*—Mr. Jonathan Dodson elected a Coroner in the place of Mr. Benjamin Bull, deceased.

The clock which, at this period and down to a few years since, occupied the position in front of the Exchange, was given to the town by James Woolley, "the Loscoe Miser." This eccentric individual was notorious for three things—the very good clocks he made, his peculiar system of farming, and the extraordinary care he took of his money. When young he was partial to shooting, but being detected at his sport on the estate of the depraved William Andrew Horne, Esq., of Butterley, and compelled by him to pay the penalty, he made a vow never to cease from labour, except when nature compelled him, till he had obtained sufficient property to justify him in following his favourite sport without dreading the frowns of his haughty neighbour. He accordingly set to work, and continued at it till he was weary, when he rested, and commenced afresh, a plan which he pursued without any regard to night and day. He denied himself the use of an ordinary bed, and every other comfort as well as necessary, except of the meanest kind. The result was that when he had acquired property to qualify him to carry a gun, he had lost all relish for the sport; and he continued to labour at clock making, except when he found an opportunity of trafficking in land, till he had amassed a considerable fortune.

The circumstances attendant upon Woolley's marvellous gift of the clock deserves narration. It was perhaps the only case in which he was ever convicted of liberality. He had at great labour and expense of time made what he considered a clock of considerable value, and as it proved unsaleable owing to its large size, he conceived the project of presenting it to the Corporation of Nottingham for the Exchange. In return he was made an honorary burgess, and was invited occasionally to the Mayor's banquets. They could scarcely have conferred upon him a greater

favour; the honour mattered not, but Corporate dinners were things which powerfully appealed through his stomach to his heart. The first he attended was productive of a ludicrous incident. His shabby and vagrant appearance nearly excluded him from the scene of good eating, and even when the Mayor's guests sat down to the table, no one seemed disposed to accommodate the miserly old gentleman. The chairs were quickly filled, and having no time to lose he crept under the table, and thrusting up his head, forced himself violently into one, but not before he had received some heavy blows on the bare skull. 1770

One more anecdote will give the man's character in full. A person came one Sunday to pay him for a clock, who, after having paid the money, was invited by Woolley to stay dinner; and having assented, his host said, "Well, then, I will boil a whole penny loaf, otherwise I should have boiled only half of one;" which he did over a cow dung fire; and this constituted the whole of the fare.

Formation of the union of Dissenting ministers and congregations, principally of the midland and northern counties, denominated the "New Connection of General Baptists." The history of this religious community in Nottingham does not present any feature of great interest. In the year 1773, Mr. W. Fox, a member of the General Baptist church at Kegworth, came to reside at Nottingham, and in the following year began to preach to a few friends in his own house. In May, 1775, six persons were baptized, and being joined by four others from neighbouring churches, they formed themselves into a distinct society. In 1776, there were thirty members, but afterwards they dwindled to a much less number, and were supplied by ministers from Melbourne, Donington, and Loughborough. In 1779, they hired a large room in Halifax-place, in which to conduct their religious services, and while there a circumstance occurred which brought the society into more public notice. Never before perhaps was a similar circumstance subsidiary to the advancement of a religious community. A person named Cooper Hall was convicted at the assizes of robbing the mail, and received sentence of death. In the short interval between sentence and execution he was visited by several of the General Baptists, apparently with good effect. On the day of the execution, vast numbers of people assembled from all parts, and Mr. Tarratt and Mr. Pollard, two of the leading friends, attended the unhappy man to the scaffold. The latter minister addressed the spectators with great earnestness, and many of them appeared deeply impressed. After the solemn scene was closed, the corpse was conveyed to the neighbourhood of the preaching-room, and placed on the head of a cask in the open air, and Mr. Tarratt, standing on another, delivered an animated discourse from *Psalm lxxxvi.*, 12, 13. The audience was very numerous, and from this day the General Baptists in Nottingham date the prosperity of their cause. Mr. Hallam, of

- 1770 Ruddington, preached once a fortnight for two or three years; the other Sabbaths were supplied by neighbouring ministers. The united labours of these pioneers, in connection with the tragical event to which allusion has been made, so far revived the General Baptist interest in Nottingham that the friends were encouraged, in 1782, to purchase the old meeting-house of the Methodists, in Octagon-place. Mr. Robert Smith came to the town in June, 1784, and was ordained as pastor of the society in 1788: this gentleman came from Loughborough. After several years prosperity, "The Tabernacle" became too small for them, and a piece of ground was purchased near to Stoney-street (the same upon which their chapel now stands), and a small meeting-house was erected thereon. The building was fifteen yards square, and contained a gallery six seats deep in front, and five seats in depth on each side. The chapel and land cost about £1,300. The opening services were conducted by Mr. Pollard, of Loughborough, and Mr. Felkin, of Ilkeston. The collections made on the occasion amounted to £76. The Rev. R. Smith was succeeded in 1819 by the Rev. W. Pickering, who still laboured in the same place of worship in 1834, when it was enlarged to its present dimensions at a cost exceeding £1,500. The successive pastors from Mr. Pickering's decease in February, 1848, have been the Rev. H. Hunter until 1866 (Rev. J. Lewitt, co-pastor), Rev. J. Greenwood, M.A., from 1866 to 1870; Rev. T. Ryder, 1870 to 1875; and the present pastor, the Rev. R. Foulkes Griffiths, of the Inner Temple, 1877.

1771.

- 1771 *April 25.*—The Mickleton jury dined at St. Ann's Well, where they were honoured with the company of the Mayor and all the Aldermen, being the whole of the bench of justices. The ages of the seven, unitedly, amounted to 485 years.

June 11.—A remarkable preservation from a dreadful death. A boy, the subject of it, was playing on the rock at the back of the County Hall, overhanging Narrow-marsh, the re-erection of the wall there being in preparation, when he suddenly felt the part on which he stood to be giving way. In the extremity of the moment, casting his eye down the fearful precipice, he observed two men in the Marsh below him, laden with a "sow" filled with ale, and at once leaped down. It was truly "a leap for life," and happily, successful. To the great astonishment of the men, whose liquor flew in all directions, the lad alighted safely in the vessel, and was unhurt. In a few seconds several tons of earth followed his descent.

August 26.—Cricket match—eleven of Nottingham v. eleven of Sheffield. The Nottingham players were, Huthwayte, Loughman, Collishaw, Turner, Roe, Spurr, Stocks, Troop, Rawson, Coleman, and Mew. The contest took place in a field on the

north side of the Race Course, and was won by our townsmen. 1771
In this match the stumps were two canes, about twenty-two inches in height, and the bats were about as broad at the bottom as those now played with, but tapered upwards till as narrow as an ordinary bat handle. The return match was played at Sheffield in the following year, with a different result, Sheffield scoring 70, and Nottingham only 14.

September 4.—A solemn mourning peal was rung on the bells of St. Peter's church, being the last occasion on which they were used. The old bells, having been cast at different periods, were deficient in general harmony. The most ancient of them was given to the parish in 1544, by Margaret Doublesay (sometimes erroneously called Doubleday), an old maid, who had gained a fortune of at least one hundred pounds, a large sum in those days, by her industry in washing. It was stipulated in the deed of gift that the bell, the seventh of the peal in point of size, should be rung every working morning at four o'clock to awaken the good women of her calling to their employment. The bell bore the following inscription:—

"AUE MARIA OF YOU CHARITIE
FOR TO PRAY FOR THE SOLE OF
MAGERE DUBBYSEAY."

The old woman also left the rent of a close abutting upon the south side of Broad-marsh (long since built over), to the sexton of the parish and his successors for ringing the said bell at the appointed hour.

The peal, consisting of eight bells, was sent to be recast to the foundry of Messrs. Packe & Co., Whitechapel, London. The bells returned to Nottingham in October, *via* Gainsborough, and upon trial were pronounced to be, and still remain, one of the best musical peals in the country. The great bell of St. Peter's weighs 21 cwt. 2 qrs. 3 lbs.; while that of St. Mary's, 34 cwt. 2 qrs. 8 lbs.

September 14.—The subjoined description of a funeral procession may serve to illustrate the prevailing usages of the period:—The Rev. Mr. Swann and a young lady, his sister (the children of the late Mr. Alderman Swann), having both died in the same week, were buried together in one grave. The mournful cortege which accompanied the remains from their only surviving brother's house on the Long-row to St. Mary's church, was arranged thus: two mutes led the way followed by two clergymen (on foot, as indeed were all the rest); then came the corpse of the brother, with a pall supported by six gentlemen dressed in black with white stockings, and scarfs and hat-bands of the same colour. The body of Miss Swann immediately succeeded. Her pall was borne by six young ladies attired in black silk gowns, with white shoulder-knots and stockings. The surviving relations in black

1771 cloaks, and the servants in mourning apparel, closed the procession.

September 29.—Alderman Cornelius Huthwaite elected Mayor.

The social condition of the framework-knitters, both before and subsequent to this period, so far as respects their command of the common necessities and comforts of life, appears to have been very little superior to that of the present day. A writer in the *Journal*, who signs himself "A Maker of Stockings," after adverting to the "shabby appearance" many of them made, thus alludes to the habits and condition of the apprentices:—"Most apprentices are able to perform their present weekly task in four days, and some in less. Thus not being obliged to work for their masters much above half their time, they take a liberty in which (through the prevalence of an unhappy custom) their masters have long indulged them, of leaving their work whenever they please; and so inure themselves to a habit of idleness, which, when they have served their times, they find so difficult to overcome, that they can scarcely maintain themselves, from which they run away, enlist for soldiers, and frequently leave a family to the care of the parish. This appears to be one cause of the disrepute into which our trade has fallen."

1772.

1772 *January 17.*—A maker of silk stockings, named Thomas Smith, cut his throat, at his lodgings, near Beck-barn. The jury at the coroner's inquest, held in the Guildhall, returning a verdict of *felo de se*, his body was interred, without a coffin or the performance of Christian rites, in the public highway at the summit of the Derby-road, then known as "the Sand hills."

January 21.—Thomas Bird, Esq., of Nottingham, gave a grand ball at the Assembly Room to a most numerous and brilliant company, including members of the first families in the county. "Tea and coffee," states the record, "being over, and the minuets ended, country dances continued till twelve o'clock, when the company were introduced to supper, consisting of more than one hundred and fifty dishes, the most elegant that could be prepared. Many loyal, social, and sentimental toasts, proclaimed by a band of the finest music, were drank upon the occasion."

January 29.—It is recorded, as an evidence of the extraordinary severity of the frost, that the oil in the public cistern was congealed in such a manner that none could be drawn wherewith to light the streets.

February 1.—Several country people perished in returning from Nottingham market, owing to the extraordinary severity of the weather. A very heavy fall of snow and sleet, with an extremely cold north-east wind, began in the afternoon and continued till morning.

Of the fatalities on this memorable night, the following may be instanced as the most remarkable:—Mrs. Ann Webster, of Calverton, in company with a neighbour, left Nottingham about five in the afternoon on horseback, and, with great difficulty in inducing the animal to face the wind, managed to travel within a mile of her home. Her companion, being less fatigued, here left her, and rode forward to the village, though fearfully exhausted, and then despatched two neighbours with lights to assist her home; her husband, who was a wheelwright, being absent. Unfortunately they took a wrong road, and could not find her. In the morning the poor woman and the horse were discovered on the road quite dead, she, however, retaining the bridle in her frozen grasp.

Distressing as this case was, the one about to be narrated was in its consequences even more so. Mr. Thomas Rhodes, butler to Wm. Chaworth, Esq., of Annesley, in company with John Curtis, of the same place, were proceeding on the Mansfield turnpike with a team of horses, when they met near Newstead a foot soldier in great distress, who implored their assistance. Mr. Rhodes, fearing that the man might be starved to death, generously took off the first horse, and mounting the soldier astride it, sent him back to Mansfield, where, with almost incredible difficulty, he at length arrived in safety. His generous preserver fell a victim to his benevolence. When the leading horse in the team was gone, the rest, it is conjectured, could not be made to draw. Rhodes and his companion were consequently so long exposed to the rigour of the night, as to be unable to withstand it. Both of them were found the next morning lying on the road at a short distance from each other, and perfectly dead. One of them left a widow and eight children.

In addition to these, several instances of the fatal effects of the storm might be introduced. Enough, however, has been adduced to show that the night was one of most fearful character, and that the sufferings of travellers must have been very great.

May 10.—The funeral sermon of the Rev. James Sloss, M.A., who died on the first of this month, of sudden paralysis, was preached at the meeting-house in Castle-gate, by the Rev. Mr. Winter, from 2 *Timothy* iv., 7: "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." Mr. Sloss had been the minister of the place nearly forty years, and was very greatly respected.

July 6.—The gentlemen of Nottinghamshire and the gentlemen of Derbyshire fought a main of cocks for two guineas a battle and twenty the odd one, at the Ram Inn. Nottinghamshire gained the day.

July 10.—A main of cocks fought at the White Lion pit, between the gentlemen of London and Derbyshire. The conditions were "to weigh fifty-one cocks in the main, and to fight for ten guineas a battle, and two hundred the odd battle. The contest

1772 ended in favour of the latter, Derbyshire gaining 16, and London 11 battles.

September 3.—Upwards of three hundred persons employed in Mr. Arkwright's cotton mill, in Hockley, walked in procession through the town, with streamers flying, preceded by the head workman, who was clothed from head to foot in white cotton. After parading the streets, they marched to the Marshall-hills* to gather nuts, and on their return in the evening were regaled with a plentiful supper.

September 11.—The Rev. Mr. Milnes, one of the ministers at the High-pavement chapel, died of gout in the stomach. He enjoyed the general esteem of his townsmen.

September 29.—Alderman Henry Butler succeeded to the Mayoralty.

October 7.—Death of the Mayor, Henry Butler, Esq., after a painful illness, in the 80th year of his age. He had been sworn into the office five times. His dissolution was caused by a stranguary, of which he was seized on the evening of his last installation.

October 8.—The Livery assembled at the Town Hall, and elected Mr. Alderman Richard Butler, Mayor, in the place of his deceased father.

October 13.—The town, on this and the two following days, was invested with an unusual amount of gaiety, occasioned by grand musical performances. They consisted principally of the oratorios, *Messiah*, *Judas Maccabeus*, and *Samson*. These were performed at the Theatre (described in the programme, "The Music Hall in St. Mary's-gate"), in the day time, under the direction of Mr. Wise; and in the evening, musical entertainments were given of a miscellaneous character, concluding with a ball at the Assembly Rooms. The performers were brought from various parts of the country, though chiefly from Lincoln and Lichfield. The Duke and Duchess of Kingston, Lord and Lady Ferrers, Lord George Sutton, Sir Gervase and Lady Clifton, and many of the first families of the neighbourhood honoured the performances with their presence.

November 5.—The Duke and Duchess of Portland, the Earl of Lincoln, Sir Wm. Boothby, Bart., Sir George Smith, Bart., and several gentlemen of distinction, dined at the house of Abel Smith, Esq., on the South-parade. In the evening they attended the Ladies' Assembly, and the next day went on a hunting excursion into the Forest.

November 9.—Mr. Thomas Oldknow elected an Alderman, in the place of the late Mayor.

* The Marshall-hills (no longer known as such) were situated between the Coppice and Carlton.

1773.

February 7.—The remains of William Rice (known for many years by the appellation of “the Nottingham giant,” and exhibited throughout the kingdom), were buried in St. Anne’s church, at Sutton Bonnington. The coffin, made of strong oak, was eight feet four inches long, and the grave nine feet long and seven feet deep. His corpse was carried by eight men, and eight maids bore up the pall. Upwards of five hundred people attended the procession. 1773

February 20.—The *Journal* of this date contained the following paragraph: “In an inclosure, used as a garden for a great number of years, opposite the old Glasshouse, near the Clay-fields in this town, a discovery has just been made of a small dwelling-house in the rock, which has long been buried in ruins. The present Mr. John Flint, in company with his father, gardeners, on digging the garden found a chimney, which they then supposed belonged to a house underground, but the discovery was not pursued. The late frost and snow preventing the gardeners from working as usual, they resolved to gratify their further curiosity, and by removing several loads of earth, soon made a full discovery. They found one large room hewn out of the rock, with a square pillar in the middle to support the roof, but little that could be called furniture, except a very old tobacco pipe as thick as a man’s little finger, and a small bar of iron in the fire-place. The large room is nearly square, about six yards by seven, and there is also another room adjoining.”

April 13.—Few things are more remarkable in the administration of the criminal jurisprudence of bygone times than the caprice with which the sentence of death was frequently pronounced; the judges seem to have held the lives of criminals dependant upon their own pleasure, without, except in cases of murder or other very atrocious crime, any certain or fixed principle of awarding punishment. At the date indicted, being the last day of the town assizes, the Judge, Sir Wm. Blackstone, Knt., gave a notable instance of this. Three prisoners, George Lupton, for stealing a mare, Thomas Howsel, for a similar offence, and Joseph Merchant, for sheep stealing, were pressed by his lordship, when sentencing them to be hanged, in most pathetic terms, “to call in the assistance of a worthy divine, and make sincere preparations for launching into eternity.” In the course of the day, without solicitation from any quarter, the Judge called them up again, and commuted Lupton’s sentence into transportation to “the Plantations”* for seven years, and the others’ into lengthened terms of imprisonment, and burning of the hand.†

* A part of what was subsequently known as the United States of America.

† Burning in the hand was a common punishment, and was usually inflicted immediately after the sentence was pronounced, in the presence of the Court. An iron instrument was affixed permanently in front of the prisoners’ dock, in both town and county halls, into which the unhappy culprit was ordered to place his hand, and when there, by the action of a screw, it became securely fixed and extended. In the meantime the iron brand, with two letters on it, would be acquiring a red heat, and being pressed upon the fleshy part of the thumb inflicted a wound so severe as to leave in most cases an indelible scar.

1773

April 21.—The *Journal* states that upwards of fifteen thousand people assembled this day on the Nottingham Race Course to witness a foot race between two of the most noted pedestrians of the day, Harrison, of Staffordshire, and Granny, of Belper. The spectators were from all parts of the country, and the greatest possible interest was felt in the issue. The friends of the Derbyshire runner were so enthusiastic in their support of his pretensions, that "many of them sold their beds, cows, and swine, to raise money to make bets; and others pawned their wives' wedding rings for that purpose; for, as the odds were seven to four and three to two in favour of Harrison, the temptation became so much the stronger, and very considerable bets laid. The highest odds we hear of were one hundred pounds, laid by a gentleman in the Stand, to thirty. The match was for the sum of £200, and the distance, ten miles, or five time round the course (it being then two miles in extent)." At two o'clock the competitors stripped, and when entirely naked, for they ran without any covering whatever, instantly commenced their arduous struggle. For the first seven miles the contest was well sustained, but in running the fourth time round, Granny by some accident fell lame of his right leg, and Harrison gained nearly fifty yards of him, which Granny could not with his utmost efforts recover, but rather kept losing ground, though in running his tenth mile he made one grand push to recover it in coming down the hill, but was very near falling in the attempt; his courage and strength then failing, he gave up the contest, with tears flowing from his eyes. The race was performed in exactly fifty-six minutes and two seconds.

May 17.—The Rev. George Beaumont, rector of St. Nicholas's, died at his house in Castle-gate, aged 46 years. He was a native of Chapel Thorpe, in Yorkshire, and was universally esteemed.

May 22.—Death of Mrs. Mary Collin, a worthy maiden lady, in the 73rd year of her age. She died in the house at Weekday-cross, occupied by her brother, John Collin, Esq., and was also sister to the late Langford Collin, Esq., a county magistrate, all three of them children of Abel Collin, Esq., the benevolent founder of the hospitals bearing his name.

May 24.—The Rev. Charles Wyld appointed rector of St. Nicholas's.

June.—The total number of houses assessed to the poor rate in the parish of St. Mary, 1,522. In 1724, the number was 652; in 1850, 9,900; in 1878, 20,611.

July 14.—The Duke of Newcastle, the Earl of Lincoln, G. Mason, Esq., and other gentlemen, dined at the house of Abel Smith, Esq., in this town. On the succeeding day, they were admitted, at the Town Hall, with the usual formalities, into the freedom of the borough.

July.—A woman, named Toplis, went to a well in

street to draw water, in which attempt her clothes by some means became entangled with the rope, and she was dragged in and drowned. 1773

August 10.—Mr. J. Carruthers, haberdasher, elected Alderman, in the place of Mr. Foulds, deceased.

August 11.—Mr. Spieby appointed to the Coronership vacant by the elevation of Mr. Carruthers.

September 23.—Died at Bath, in his 62nd year, the Duke of Kingston. This nobleman, who was Recorder of Nottingham in 1738, was constituted Master of the Staghounds on the north of the Trent. In 1741 he was installed a Knight of the Garter. In 1763 he was appointed Lord Lieutenant of the town and county, and Steward and Keeper of the Forest of Sherwood and Park of Folewood; but soon after resigned the lieutenancy in favour of the Duke of Newcastle. His Grace died without issue. The ceremonial attendant upon the interment of the remains of this, the last Duke of Kingston, was very imposing. The body was first deposited, as a temporary arrangement, in St. James's church, at Bath. On the 13th of the next month, it was placed in a mourning coach for its passage to the family mausoleum at Holme Pierrepont. On the 16th the mourning cavalcade arrived at Loughborough, where the body lay in state till the 19th, when it was conveyed thence to the south end of Nottingham Trent Bridge, and there joined by a large train of the nobility and gentry. A grand procession, each member of which was on horseback, then set out in the following order:—His Grace's tenants, with white staves; six mutes, in black cloaks; plume of feathers; his Grace's gentleman carrying the ducal coronet and cushion, on a led horse in mourning, supported by two pages; the corpse in a hearse, with the family escutcheon, drawn by six long-tailed black horses draped in black velvet, ornamented with escutcheons and streamers; four mourning coaches, followed by a numerous train of noblemen's and gentlemen's carriages, and by a large body of his Grace's tenantry. At noon, the cavalcade arrived at Holme Pierrepont, and the nobility and gentry were conducted into the ancient family mansion. A funeral procession on foot was formed at four o'clock as follows:—Twenty constables, trophy men, mutes, the coronet and cushion, feathers, six clergymen in scarfs and hat bands, the vicar of St. Mary's, Nottingham (his Grace's chaplain), the body—the pall supported by the Duke of Portland, the Duke of Newcastle, Lord Lincoln, Lord J. Clinton, Lord George Sutton, Sir George Saville, Bart., Sir W. Boethby, Bart., and Sir Thomas Parkyns, Bart.; the chief mourners, Dr. Sutton, Colonel Lichfield, Mr. Mellish, Captain Brown, and Samuel Shering, Esq. (his Grace's steward), a large number of gentlemen in scarfs and hat bands, among whom were Sir R. Sutton, Bart., Esq., Sir Francis Molineux, Captain Lister, &c., in mourning, bailiffs and officers under his servants out of livery in mourning,

1773 and lastly, livery servants in mourning. The coffin was covered with rich crimson velvet.

September 29.—Alderman Thomas Oldknow elected Mayor. This gentleman was the grandfather of the late Mr. O. T. Oldknow, of the Post Office.

October 20.—The Duke of Newcastle elected to the vacant office of Recorder, and sworn into it at the Guildhall, with the usual formalities.

November 21.—The most daring burglary of which we have any record in our local annals was perpetrated this morning. Mr. Topott, confectioner, Long-row, retired with his family to rest, about twelve o'clock on the previous night (Saturday), he and his wife sleeping in the chamber over the dining room, three storeys high. Whilst they were asleep, the apartment was the theatre of an event of tragical consequence to one of the actors, to a consciousness of which Mr. and Mrs. Topott did not awake for several hours. Their somnolency may to some extent be accounted for by the supposition that their room being close to a very public highway, and in immediate contact on one side with the Black Boy inn, any slight noise would be so familiar as not to readily disturb them. In the morning, a little after seven, the worthy couple heard a confused report in the street, that a house must have been broken into and robbed. On investigation, it proved to be their own. To their great dismay, they found one of their bed room windows wide open, with a long ladder resting against it; and that their bureau had been forcibly opened, and 265 guineas and a half in gold, upwards of £7 in silver, nearly £10 in foreign gold coin, a bill of the value of £70, and a gold watch, had all been stolen. When they had somewhat recovered from the shock produced by the discovery, Mr. and Mrs. Topott began to consider who the burglar could be that had thus so audaciously divested them of their wealth, nor were they long in forming a rational conjecture. They recollected that just before the last Goose Fair, Joseph Shaw, a young journeyman joiner, had been employed to hang with paper the very room in which the robbery had been committed, and Mr. Topott coupled with this remembrance the fact that, having caught him in the act of attempting to pick a lock, he had ordered him to leave the premises. No time was lost in applying for a warrant, and about nine o'clock the same morning, the suspected party was found at his lodgings in Parliament-street. The premises were searched, and nearly all the stolen property was found concealed under a heap of dirt in the cellar.

The way in which the discovery of the buried treasure was effected is not the least remarkable feature in the transaction. Mr. Topott had informed the discoverers that the watch went eight days, and if found within a week, would doubtless be going. The constables consequently went on their hands and knees in cellar, and applied their ears to the ground. *Hearings*

they dug at the particular spot, and disclosed the property. 1778. While the search was proceeding, it happened that a whitesmith named William Taylor, a bosom friend of Shaw's, came in, and wanted to speak with him in private. Instead of this, he was himself taken into custody as a supposed accomplice; and on the same day (Sunday), both of them underwent an examination at the house of Mr. Alderman Butler. For some time they persisted in their assertions of innocence, but at length Taylor, through fear of the gallows, or moved by the tears of his own sister, offered to make a full confession of the whole affair, if his testimony, admitted in evidence against Shaw, might exculpate himself. This point having been conceded, Taylor underwent a protracted examination. The substance of his confession was as follows:— He said the robbery had been planned by Shaw some time before its execution, though the design had not been communicated to himself till the night previous. They had been drinking together throughout the evening; the last public house they were at was situate near the Blackmoor's head, where they stayed till the landlord desired them to go away, and they took leave by drinking each a large glassful of Geneva. When near the White Lion, Shaw told him, that if he would join him, he knew "how and where to get a good sum of money." Having asked him for an explanation, Shaw said it was to be had at Mr. Topott's, who he knew always kept money by him in his chamber. He replied at first, that the undertaking was too hazardous, requiring, as it did, that an entrance should be made into the very room in which the owner slept; but being urged, said at length that, "as cash run short he would venture." They effected the robbery by unlocking a set of ladders chained together in the Maypole-yard, and selecting therefrom one which they judged suitable for their purpose, carried it to the place of action. Shaw ascended by it to the east window, but could not slide it up; he then tried the other, but seeing a light opposite the way, he desisted and came down, and nearly an hour elapsed ere they ventured to renew the attempt. Everything seeming quiet, Shaw again ascended, and finding the west window to open freely, stealthily entered the room. Passing by the head of the bed in which the master and mistress of the house were soundly asleep, he took the gold watch from a pocket above the pillow, and approached the bureau, and forced it open as noiselessly as was practicable. Opening a drawer in the interior, he discovered the hoard, and placing the booty in his handkerchief, descended the ladder with joy and alacrity, telling his companion, who had been on the watch below, that he had done the business effectually, for he had got money enough. They then, contrary to Taylor's advice, left the window open, and the ladder reared against it. The burglars went from the scene of the nefarious transaction to Shaw's lodgings, where they counted and to hide it till the noise of the robbery
 onwards parted, vowing eternal

- 1773 friendship and secrecy to each other. This confession was reduced to writing and properly attested, and both prisoners were committed for trial. Thus, in a surprisingly short space of time (less than twelve hours after the robbery), were the perpetrators of the crime discovered, examined, and fully committed to gaol, and nearly all the money restored to its lawful owner.

At the ensuing March Assizes, Shaw pleaded not guilty, but the testimony of his confederate being of so overpowering a nature, the jury rejected the plea, and Sir Wm. Blackstone sentenced him to be hung. Accordingly, on the 30th of the same month, the misguided young man, who was only 22 years of age, suffered the last penalty of the law, along with another offender, named Wheatley, at the usual place of execution. The procession moved through the town and up the hill very slowly, occupying nearly an hour and a half in its progress. The singers of St. Mary's church sang penitential psalms the whole of the way. The malefactors were met at the gallows by the Rev. Mr. Anderson, Chaplain of the County Gaol, and spent a full hour in devotional exercises. They were then unlocked from each other, and ascended the cart, where the functionary of the law affixed the ropes to each of their necks, and then to the gallows. They both behaved with becoming penitence. Shaw was the son of a dyer and trimmer in Narrow-marsh, and had served an apprenticeship with Mr. Cullen, joiner and carpenter, in Parliament-street. It was supposed that he had been engaged in more robberies than one. He and Wheatley were the last criminals who had to walk through the town to the place of execution.

The total number of births in Nottingham this year, according to the parochial and dissenting records, was 755; of deaths, 647.

1774.

- 1774 *January 11.*—The frost so intense as to totally impede the navigation of the Trent. The river above the bridge and in other places continued covered with ice for five days.

January 19.—An order was made by the Court of Quarter Sessions to levy the sum of £140 on the inhabitants, being a fine, pursuant to Act of Parliament, of five pounds per man, for 28 men, the quota which Nottingham, as a town and county of itself, should have raised in the past year to join the Militia of the county at large.

February 8.—Ringing the church bells appears to have been a very popular diversion, and the merits of different companies of ringers a subject of much discussion and interest. A performance at St. Peter's this day created quite an excitement. Messrs. Robinson, Fettiplace, Peat, Metherringham, Crofts, Mason, Bradley, and Draper, went through a peal of seven thousand and forty Oxford treble-bob (eight in), which took five hours and one minute.

in performing. In reviewing this performance, the effective and intricate manner in which the peal was rung is worthy of as much consideration as the number of changes; treble-bob, for beauty of composition, harmony, and difficulty in execution, being allowed a superiority over all other even bell peals whatsoever. And it may be observed that neither a peal of the above length, nor in that method, was ever rung before by any other company within one hundred miles of Nottingham. 1774

March 19.—Trial and conviction of Richard Wheatley, for robbing the bleach yard of Messrs. Unwin and Sons, at Sutton-in-Ashfield, and returning from transportation. He was executed, as already stated, in company with Joseph Shaw. Wheatley was a native of Ilkeston, but served his apprenticeship in Nottingham with a framework-knitter in Parliament-street, named Smith. In 1768, he was transported for breaking into the pie shop of a person named Morton, in Shoemakers'-booth (Exchange-alley), and was taken to Maryland, in America, and there sold as a slave, to the master of a coasting vessel; but soon becoming an able sailor, he was impressed, along with others, to serve on board with Admiral Rodney's squadron, then on the West India station. He was subsequently put on board a merchant vessel, and in 1772 came back to England. He obtained employment in London, and got married; but in the following year deserted his wife and child, and revisited his old associates in this neighbourhood. He succeeded in getting into work at Loughborough; and in one of his excursions thence, to see a brother at Sutton, he robbed the bleach yard; for which, and being found at large in this country before his term of transportation had expired, he was condemned to death, in the 36th year of his age. Under the gallows, when, after considerable delay, the cap was drawn over his eyes, he implored the Sheriff to grant him a few minutes longer, and employed them in exhorting the spectators "to take warning by his unhappy fate."

April 19.—Death of Madam Cassandra Willoughby, at her residence in Broad-marsh, in this town, where she had lived with her sister Elizabeth, a great number of years, aged 83. This maiden lady was the eldest daughter of Francis Willoughby, Esq., of Cossall, and was connected in blood with the noble family, the possessors of Wollaton. She was a lady of exemplary virtue, and very liberal to the poor, and though a strict Roman Catholic, administered largely with an impartial hand to the necessities of both Protestants and Catholics. It is remarkable that the father of this lady was the only High Sheriff of the Roman Catholic faith who served that office in this county since the Reformation. He was appointed in the third year of the reign of James II.

Mr. Oldknow, Esq., arrived in the
Miss Sarah Starkey, "a very
an independent fortune,"

1774 to whom he had been united in London. The very unusual circumstance of a Mayor finding time during his year of office to successfully besiege the heart of a lady was deemed worthy of celebration, and the victorious knight was met and escorted to his house in Mount-street by a procession, with music, ringing of bells, and other rejoicings.

July 7.—Mr. John James, brickmaker, Hockley, came to a premature end, by an accident of a strange and melancholy nature. A few days previously, as he was busily engaged in stacking hay, his daughter, eight years of age, was, for her amusement, placed at the top of the stack, holding in her hand a small hay fork. She, unfortunately, suffered the instrument to slip from her grasp, and sliding down the side of the rick, the prongs penetrated the father's head, and so injured his brain that he died at the date indicated.

July 19.—The Duke of Newcastle, accompanied by the Earl of Lincoln, and a retinue of gentlemen, arrived at the house of Abel Smith, Esq., in this town. The next day was spent in viewing the Castle and other property in the neighbourhood belonging to his Grace. In the evening, the Duke and party attended the Theatre. On the third day, at half-past two, ninety noblemen and gentlemen, including the members of the Corporation, attended at Thurland-hall, where an excellent entertainment had been provided at his Grace's expense, to celebrate his election as Recorder.

August 8.—An outrage was committed early this morning, by a number of dissolute fellows, one of whom had subsequently to atone for it with his life. Its subject was a widow of the name of Mary Dufty, commonly known by the appellation of "Widow Dufty," who was accustomed to go out to gentlemen's houses as a washerwoman. The day previous was Sneinton feast, and at night the woman was seen on the footpath which led from that then retired village to Nottingham, in a state of intoxication,—a circumstance deemed so remarkable as to excite the attention of several persons, as she had never before been known to drink to excess. It was conjectured, however, that, having been to the feast, her friends had plied her with liquor rather too freely. The poor woman was in the 60th year of her age, was honest and industrious, and had been a widow about a year. It appeared subsequently that she had left her home, near the maypole, which then stood in Parliament-street,* about six o'clock in the evening, in company with a female acquaintance, to enjoy themselves a little at Sneinton wakes. She had a pennyworth of ale before she went, and the evening being very sultry, indulged in

* The maypole stood at the lower end of Upper Parliament-street. It was erected under the following circumstances:—A violent contest took place at an election in 1745, between John Plumtre, Esq., supported by the Whigs, and Sir Charles Sedley, supported by the Tories, the latter party succeeding for the first time since the year 1715; in consequence of which, Sir Charles gave his partisans the finest fir in his Park at Nuttall, which they erected as a maypole. It was ordered down by Mr. Thomas Wyer, when he was overseer of the highways, in 1780.

another pennyworth of ale, and a glass of mead, at Sneinton. 1774
 This, combined with the influence of the fumes of tobacco, in a crowded and close room, so affected her that on her entrance into the open air, she was overcome. She was first observed, in endeavouring to return home, near a pond at the west end of the village, by a young man and woman: they noticing her condition, helped her over a stile leading from Sneinton-fields to Nottingham, and as she was walking in the close by their side, she fell down; when raised up, she managed to stagger ten or twelve yards further, and then fell forward upon her face, her hat and cap both flying off. The young man and woman rearranged her dress, and left her sitting on the grass. Soon after the woman was thus left, several men came up to her in the close, and used her very cruelly; they gave her a slap on the face, pulled off her hat and cap, dragged her along the ground by her hair, stole the buckles from her shoes and the handkerchief from her neck, and finally cast her into a ditch.

Between one and two o'clock, a labouring man, walking towards Pennyfoot-stile, heard a voice saying, "Good Christians, come and help me;" and proceeding in the direction of the sound, found the poor creature sitting with her feet in the dike. She told him how cruelly she had been used, and he assisted her over a gate adjoining the horse-road leading from Glasshouse-lane to Sneinton, with the intention of seeing her home; but as he was leading her along the lane, he was met by some young men, who forced her from him, telling him that they were her friends, and would take care of her. One of them said to the others, "Lads, here is a chance, if you will embrace it;" and they then told the man, that if he followed them they would lick him, and at the same time doubled their fists at him. They then took her to near the Meadow-plats (then a secluded part of the open fields), followed by the labourer, who, though he dare not interfere, determined to watch their proceedings from the covert of the nearest hedge. For a long time the unhappy victim was in the clutches of as diabolical a set of wretches as ever disgraced human nature. Not content with one after another violating her person, they stripped her naked, and beat and kicked her, and were heard to say to each other, "What fine sport this is!" At length, the barbarians thought it time to be moving, daybreak dawning upon them, and the woman appearing dead. One of them, however, dreading a discovery, proposed to hang her upon a tree, that the world might suppose she had committed suicide, and began to take off her garters for that purpose, as she lay on the ground; but two of the party, by repeated kicks, which they inflicted to make her get up, brought her at length to her senses. Two of the men then supported her to the lower end of the Meadow-plats, and laid her, naked as she was, with her face downwards, by the side of a ditch, where the first
 - left her, after throwing her
 - and gone, the labourer

1774 who had lain in ambush watching their motions, crept through the hedge just as he heard St. Mary's clock strike four, and calling to a person who happened to be passing to come and render assistance, they lent their own clothes to cover her nakedness, and with great difficulty carried her home, where she lingered till the 25th, and then expired.

The Coroner's jury returned a verdict of wilful murder (as it appeared to them from a long train of circumstantial evidence) against William Voce, John Crampton, jun., Joseph Stenson, John Smith, and others unknown, and as they had all fled, a liberal subscription was opened to ensure their apprehension. Voce, who had been so imprudent as to wear the poor woman's buckles on his shoes, on the very day the deed was committed, was apprehended in London, on the 6th of September, and committed for trial. Smith and Crampton managed to elude their pursuers by escaping to France, but hearing some years afterwards of the labourer's death, returned, and when arraigned for trial were acquitted for want of evidence. Stenson wandered about the kingdom, and at last settled in Yorkshire, without interruption. At the time of the deed they were all single young men and framework-knitters.

September 29.—Alderman John Carruthers elected Mayor.

September 30.—Intelligence arriving of a dissolution of Parliament, it was announced that Lord Edward Bentinck, brother of the Duke of Portland, in conjunction with Colonel Howe, would stand in the Whig interest, and Sir Charles Sedley as the candidate of the old or Tory party. The election commenced on the following Tuesday, and the polling continued till ten o'clock on Friday, when a soldier, coming near the polling place (a booth in front of the Exchange), was so imprudent as to bring his sword with him, and the crowd not permitting him to go forward, he drew the weapon, and flourished it over the heads of the people, inflicting a wound upon one of them. He then struggled into the booth, but not coming out after he had polled, the populace became so deeply exasperated as to totally stop the business, nor would they suffer the polling to recommence till the Mayor had committed the offender to gaol and publicly broken his sword into pieces. At noon the same day the poll closed as follows:—

For Sir Charles Sedley, Bart.	1116
The Hon. William Howe	972
Lord Edward Bentinck	911

Whereupon the two former were declared duly elected.

October 19.—Lord Lincoln and the Hon. T. Willoughby elected for the county without opposition. In the afternoon, the members were chaired down the Pavements, along Bridlesmith-gate, and round the Market-place to their respective inns; public dinners were given in various parts of the town; and the festivity closed with a grand ball at the Assembly-rooms, opened with a minuet by Lord Lincoln and the Countess of Sussex.

December 16.—Death of Francis, Lord Middleton, aged 48 1774
years. Dying a bachelor, he was succeeded in his title and immense
estates by his only brother, the Hon. Thomas Willoughby, M.P.,
thus creating a vacancy in the representation of the county.

1775.

January 11.—Election of Lord Edward Cavendish Bentinck 1775
as the new county representative. It had been anticipated that
an opposition candidate would be nominated in the Tory interest,
more especially as John Musters, Esq., had issued an address
expressive of his readiness to stand. The influence of the great
Whig landowners was felt, however, to be so strong as to induce
Mr. Musters to withdraw his pretensions. The new representative
was chaired through the streets of Nottingham, as usual, and in
the evening, a ball at the Assembly-rooms was opened by his
Lordship and the Duchess of Portland dancing a minuet.

February 1.—Mrs. Waterhill, an eccentric widow of good
property, died at her house on the High-pavement, aged 79 years.
Among her peculiarities it may be instanced that she entertained
an idea that the Sabbath ought to be observed on the Saturday,
in accordance with Jewish practice and the fourth commandment.
Consequently, she with great regularity went every Saturday to
St. Mary's church, dressed in her best apparel, and would do no
kind of business on that day. She did not however neglect
Divine service on Sunday, though she made the distinction of
going in her ordinary dress, and filling up the rest of the day in
sewing and other secular employment. Her remains were carried
to their resting-place near the porch of St. Mary's, pursuant to
her will, by six women in white, no man being permitted to touch
her coffin; and on the morning of interment seven bells, one for
each day in the week, sent forth right merry peals from the old
church tower.

March 16.—Cornelius Launder, Esq., High Sheriff, enter-
tained a large party, in an elegant manner, at his mansion in St.
James's-street, and at five o'clock set out, accompanied by his
officers and javelin men, preceded by trumpets and his armorial
bearings, to meet Sir James Eyre, who had to open the Assize
Courts.

At these assizes, William Voce received sentence of death
for the part he took in the murder of Mary Dufty. He was
executed on Monday, the 20th. The sacrament was administered
to him in the morning by the chaplain, though he denied his
participation in the crime to the last moment. At ten, he was
brought up from the condemned cell, and had his irons knocked off;
and at twelve, the procession set out, and arrived at the fatal spot
in about an hour. After ~~having~~ ^{passing} the usual time, the body was
conveyed to the ^{being extended on a table}

1775 was inspected by great numbers. It was then subjected to dissection in the same place.

February 28.—A society of bell-pullers rang, with the ten bells of St. Mary's, in seven hours and a half, eleven thousand three hundred and forty grandsire cators—a performance never, we believe, surpassed, and never likely to be again attempted. Mr. W. D. Crofts, solicitor, rang the ninth bell during the whole time. Mr. Richard Peat, of Queen-street, needle maker, the last survivor, died in 1829, aged 74 years.

April 11.—Death of John Collin, Gent., at his house on the High-pavement, aged 66 years. His remains were interred on the 14th in the family vault at St. Nicholas's church, attended by a very respectable retinue, including several Dissenting ministers, deceased having been a member of the church worshipping in Castle-gate. The Collins were descendants of the individual of that name who was appointed by Oliver Cromwell to the command of a company of soldiers doing duty at Nottingham Castle; and to this simple circumstance may the introduction of the family be traced to a town which has reaped from it important advantages.

May 20.—Mr. Warren, of Stapleford, created a Baronet. Sir John Borlase Warren was descended from the family of Borlase of Marlow, in Buckinghamshire; but the male line of the family became extinct at the death of Sir John Borlase, in 1668. On his demise, his manors and estates devolved to an only daughter, Anne, married to Arthur Warren, of Stapleford, in this county, by whom he had issue Borlase Warren, whose grandson is the subject of the present memoir.

Young Warren, at an early age, was sent to Bicester, in Oxfordshire, for education, and thence removed to Winchester; but his passion for a naval life was even then so strong that he is said to have walked one fine summer's morning to the sea side, and actually entered himself as a volunteer. His relations immediately procured him a situation on board a vessel, and after a cruise in the North Sea, Mr. Warren returned to England, and was prevailed upon to resume his studies. In 1776, he took the degree of M.A. at Cambridge, and soon after quitted the University, and made a tour of the Continent. On Sir John's return to this country he entered somewhat into the dissipation of the times. His pleasures were partly characterised by professional amusements, for he kept a yacht in the Severn, and actually purchased the island of Lundy for the accommodation of his crew and vessel. About this time, he bought a commission for a destitute grandson of Theodore, late king of Corsica, and in the most handsome manner presented it to him. Sir John now turned his attention to Parliament, and after several sharp contests was twice returned as representative for the borough of Marlow. But in the heat of the American war his naval passion kindled anew, and he resumed the duties of an officer in the ~~ki~~ ~~service~~.

Before his embarkation on board the *Venus*, Sir John performed 1775 an action characteristically benevolent. He visited the Fleet and King's Bench prisons, and released all the naval officers in both of them by discharging their debts. Our hero served under Lord Howe, who, with a powerful squadron, was employed on the American shores blockading the ports of the present United States, and while on this station, in 1788, he was made a lieutenant, and acted in that capacity on board the *Nonsuch*. After two years' service on the Transatlantic coast our young lieutenant returned to Europe upon promotion; and accordingly, at the end of a few months' residence on board the *Victory*, he was appointed master and commander, 1779, and nominated to a sloop of war recently taken from the enemy. Within a few months the *Ariadne*, *L'Aigle*, and the *Winchelsea* frigate, were placed successively under his command.

Sir John now deemed it a proper time to settle in life, and married a daughter and co-heiress of General Clavering, K.B., by Lady Diana West, third daughter of the first Earl of Delaware. This estimable lady survived him many years.

On the breaking out of the French revolution, and the war consequent thereon, Captain Sir J. B. Warren hoisted his pennant on board the *Flora*, a new frigate of 36 guns, and was occupied a twelvemonth in convoying merchantmen. He was then appointed to the command of a flying squadron, consisting of four frigates and a sloop of war, with which, as commodore, he intercepted the trade, annoyed the cruisers, and occasionally engaged the batteries of the enemy, contriving to keep a great part of the French coast in a state of continual fear and danger. Soon after his return, in 1794, Sir John was created a Knight of the Bath, and was again sent out with a small squadron of five frigates, including the *Flora*, his own vessel. Falling in with a similar squadron of the enemy off the French coast, a close and decisive action ensued. After a contest of upwards of three hours duration three of the French ships were captured, though not till their commodore was slain. Towards the latter end of the same summer, Commodore Warren was despatched with a stronger force than heretofore to his former cruising ground, and drove *La Felicite*, of 40 guns, ashore on the Penmark rocks, while he pursued two corvettes or sloops of war under refuge of three batteries near the Gamelle rocks, and fought them in that position until their masts fell overboard, when they were abandoned by their respective crews.

The English Ministry resolved at this period to land a considerable body of French emigrants on their native soil, on purpose to effect a junction with the Chouans; and as no one was better acquainted with the coast than Commodore Warren, he was selected for the command of the naval department. Having collected upwards of fifty transports the emigrant army embarked from the Isle of Wight, and after a passage of sixteen days, during which they were at one time in imminent danger of falling in

1775 with the whole of the French fleet, they anchored in Quiberon Bay, July 4th, 1795. The landing of the main body was effected during the night, and the remainder were safely put on shore in the course of the succeeding day, with an immense quantity of muskets, uniforms, provisions, stores, and five pieces of cannon. But as the position assumed in the peninsula could not be maintained without getting possession of the battery which commanded it, the Commodore gave orders for three frigates to attack Fort Penthièvre on one side, while he himself landed with a body of English marines to join the emigrants and royalists on the other, who, being newly clothed, presented the spectacle of a numerous and well appointed army; so that after a siege of two days the garrison, being afraid of an assault, surrendered prisoners of war. Sir John performed many other important services, for particulars of which the reader may refer to the naval histories of the period. The most signal of these were, his capture of the French fleet in 1796, off Achil Head, for which he received the thanks of both Houses of Parliament; the capture of the *Etoile*; the storming of several of the enemy's coast batteries; and throwing succours into Porto Ferrajo, thereby enabling the garrison to make a successful sally on the besiegers.

With the war, ended for a time the services of Sir John Warren, now a Rear Admiral of the Blue; and he accordingly returned to this neighbourhood to enjoy repose in the bosom of his family. But alas! this was embittered by the death of his son, a fine young man, who had gone to Egypt as an officer of the Guards, and died there. Soon after the peace of Amiens he was selected for the embassy to Russia, and he accordingly repaired with his family to the Court of St. Petersburg. Previous to setting out he was made a Privy Counsellor.

In 1796 Sir John was elected a representative in Parliament for the town of Nottingham. He was again returned in 1802, and sat till the dissolution in 1806. In the latter year, Sir John took the command of a squadron in the West Indies, where he was so fortunate as to fall in with the French Admiral Lenois on his return from the East Indies laden with spoil, on board the *Marengo*, of 80 guns, and the *Belle Poule* frigate, and after a smart action both these rich vessels were taken. The Right Hon. Bart. having now risen to the rank of Admiral, was in 1812, appointed Commander in Chief of his Majesty's ships and vessels on the North American station, and occupied that important post during the last American war. At the conclusion of the unhappy contest he returned to England, and passed much of his time at Stapleford, frequently appearing in Nottingham on the county bench of magistrates. Sir John was paying a visit to Sir Richard Keate, of Greenwich Hospital, when he was seized suddenly with a serious illness, and died there on the 27th of February, 1822. He left no other issue than a daughter, married to the Hon. George Vernon.

May 29.—Workmen commenced the demolition of an ancient house on the High-pavement, the most picturesque probably in the town. It stood at the corner of Garners-hill, and had been in the occupation of Mr. Edwards, an eminent peruke maker. The style of the building was early English, each story projecting two feet or more beyond the one beneath it, so that the one next the roof was more than nine feet wider than the ground floor. The whole was composed almost entirely of oak and chestnut, and was supposed to be nearly six hundred years old. 1775

June 17.—Battle of Bunker's Hill, in which the British troops sustained a loss of 1,054 men, of whom 226 were killed. The loss of the Americans, as reported by themselves, was 450. Hence the origin of Bunker's-hill, Parliament-street, the houses of which were built about this time.

August 1.—A general meeting of the Deputy Lieutenants was held at the Swan inn, Mansfield, relative to the Militia Act. A dispute between the town of Nottingham and the gentlemen of the county, respecting the number of men to serve for the town, came to an amicable settlement, and the proportion was adjusted as subjoined :—

Nottingham town ...	80	Rushcliffe hundred ...	34
Bassetlaw hundred ...	123	Bingham ...	37
Broxtowe ...	93	Newark ...	46
Thurgarton ...	70		

August 4.—Sarah Lowe and Samuel Webb received sentence of death, at the Town Hall, for violently assaulting and robbing William Ironmonger of a silver watch and three guineas. The robbery was committed late at night, near the Ram inn, in the Market-place. Sir William Blackstone addressed them in the usual pathetic terms, advising them to make the best use of the short time they had to live by a sincere repentance, &c. The next day they were sentenced to transportation.

September.—As some excavators were at work on the south side of Broad-marsh, they discovered a quantity of human bones in a good states of preservation, considering that they must have lain there at least since the dissolution of the monasteries in the reign of Henry VIII. In some of the skulls the teeth were quite perfect. The Minorities or Minors had a monastery at the west corner of Broad-marsh, the garden wall of which extended as far south as the river Leen. The Minors were mendicants of the order of St. Francis, and were commonly known as Grey Friars. The monastery in Broad-marsh was founded by Henry III., A.D. 1250, and was surrendered in 1539 by Thomas Heneage, the last warden, and seven friars.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Fellows elected Mayor.

October 18.—John Inglesant, Gent., of St. James's-street, elected into the Senior Council in the place of Mr. Dymock, d.

- 1775 Up to this period, when an Act of Parliament was passed to abolish the practice, the provincial banks all over the country were accustomed to issue notes for sums as small as ten and five shillings each. These were very common in Nottingham. Some banks in Yorkshire had even in circulation notes for the value of sixpence. The nuisance of such beggarly establishments may easily be conceived when it is learnt, that in addition to the smallness of the sums for which they issued their paper, they appended a condition that their notes should not be exchanged for silver, unless the holder brought the change for a guinea to the issuer.

1776.

- 1776 *January.*—Great fall of snow and intense cold. Drivers of vehicles found it impossible to complete their journeys, and the stage coach to London was stopped midway, and unable to proceed. A contemporary record states that the road beyond Northampton "was crowded with the passengers of the northern stages, who had been detained there all the week owing to the great depth of snow; that many of them, unpossessed of the gift of second sight, had neglected to make provision for the contingency that had befallen them, and were reduced to the greatest distress; while, on the other hand, some, who were well supplied with the one thing needful lived gaily at the nearest public or farm houses, and were in high spirits; and that almost every house on the road exhibited either a droll picture of noise, merriment, and dissipation, or else wore visible marks of vexation, disappointment, and chagrin."

On the 13th, two men were returning in the evening from Nottingham market to Papplewick, when they were overcome by the cold half-way between Red-hill and their place of destination. In the morning, one of them was found extended on the snow and dead; the other was found in a state of insensibility, with his stiffened arms clasping the trunk of a tree, and icicles at the end of his fingers: with much difficulty his life was preserved.

The same day another sufferer was rescued from death by Mr. Turner, an attorney of this town. A young woman in the service of Mr. Lee, of the Peacock Tavern, near St. Peter's church, had been to Leeds on a visit to her friends, and was returning to Nottingham. She left Leeds as an outside passenger on the coach, but about midway the tremendous fall of snow rendered it impossible for the vehicle to proceed further, and the young woman not having the means to stay where she was, set out resolutely on foot. She managed to reach a little on this side The Hut, on the Mansfield-road, when her strength totally failed, and she lay down to perish. In the hour of her extremity Mr.

Turner happened to be passing that way on horseback, and prompted by humanity, raised her up, took off his great coat and wrapped her in it, drew his gloves on to her hands, and with great difficulty succeeded in conveying her to Red-hill, where she was properly taken care of at his expense until sufficiently recovered to be brought to Nottingham. 1776

January 20.—The average price of wheat in Nottingham market, 34s. per qr.; of barley, 26s. 6d.

February 14.—Daniel Parker Coke, Esq., having been declared by the House of Commons duly elected for Derby, was met by a vast concourse of people about a mile from that town in full procession, with music, banners, streamers, &c. Upwards of a hundred gentlemen and tradesmen went also from Nottingham to meet Mr. Coke, including six butchers with blue silk waistcoats. As soon as they met him, accompanied by Sir Henry Harpur, he ordered the butchers to fall in procession before his carriage, a position which they occupied throughout the charring. Forty-two of the Nottingham gentlemen dined subsequently at the old Assembly-room, and when Mr. Coke sent to defray the expense, they firmly but respectfully resolved to discharge it themselves. The Nottingham butchers rung a peal on their cleavers in the King's Head yard, which, with their blue silk waistcoats, made a very favourable impression on the gentlemen present. After dinner they rang another peal in the Market-place, and a third peal in the Corn-market before the King's Head gate. They were then sent for by Mrs. Pole, of Radbourne, to ring another peal at her lodgings, which so delighted her that she offered them a guinea and a half; but to their honour they nobly refused it, saying they had not come with any expectation of gain, but purely to honour the cause of Mr. Coke.

April 17.—A woman was arraigned at the town quarter sessions, and fined, "for baking oatcakes on the Lord's day."

May 22.—Death of Miss Sarah Sherwin, at her house in St. Mary's-gate, aged 64 years, the aunt of the late John Sherwin, Esq., barrister, of this town. The remains of this lady were interred within St. Mary's church, on the 5th of June, in grand funeral procession. The pall was supported by Lord Middleton, Sir Gervase Clifton, Sir Thomas Parkyns, Sir George Smith, John Wright, Esq., Samuel Smith, Esq. (chief mourner), John Foxcroft, Esq., John Westcomb Emerton, Esq., and the Rev. Mr. Gregory.

June 14.—A grand ball was given at the Castle by Lieut. Lord George Sutton, Lieut.-Colonel the Earl of Lincoln, and the other officers of the Nottinghamshire Regiment of Militia. The company included the principal families of the neighbourhood, and the ball room bore a particularly brilliant appearance. The regiment did duty at the Castle to keep off intruders, &c.

July 4.—Declaration of American independence.

September 8.—George Brown, who had been sentenced to

1776 death at the Summer Assizes for committing a burglary at Worksop, had his sentence commuted to "three years hard labour on the Thames," near London.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Sands installed into the office of Mayor.

October 21.—At a meeting of noblemen and gentlemen, held at the White Lion inn, a subscription was entered into for the erection of a Stand on the Race-course; no person being allowed to subscribe less than twenty guineas, which would entitle each subscriber to two silver tickets, to be transferable; each ticket to admit a lady or gentleman during the races. The principal subscribers were the Dukes of Newcastle, Norfolk, and Portland, 200 guineas each; and Lord Middleton, Sir George Saville, Sir Charles Sedley, and John Musters, Esq., 100 guineas each. The total sum subscribed amounted to £2,460. The present structure was built in the following year. The local newspaper of Feb. 1st, thus describes it:—

On Monday morning were begun to be dug on the Forest, near Nottingham race-course, the foundations of a new grand stand, and on Tuesday the first stone thereof was laid by Mr. Samuel Stretton, builder, one of the undertakers of the said fabric. The above stand will be built on an entire new plan, designed by that ingenious architect, John Carr, Esq., of York, to whom, and the subscribers of so noble an edifice, it is not to be doubted, but praise will be handed down to future generations. The above building will extend upwards of 81 feet in the front, and in the centre upwards of 52 feet wide; the lower story will consist of tea and card rooms, a vestibule, and geometrical staircase, exclusive of a kitchen, bar, store rooms, cellars, &c.; and the upper story of a genteel room, upwards of 81 feet long (breadth in proportion); this room is designed, not only for entertainments, but so ordered that those ladies and gentlemen who don't choose to stand on the miranda or platform (which is to be supported by an arcade below), may have an opportunity of seeing the course in every part. The roof will have steps thereon, covered with lead, on which near 500 people may stand at once, and will, as well as the miranda or platform below, be inclosed with a stone balustrade.

Nottingham Race-course was, in ancient times, four miles round; early in the 18th century it was reduced to two miles. The course as then reduced continued in existence until the year 1797, when it was destroyed by the inclosure of the Radford and Lenton portion of the Forest. In 1798 another course was made, in the form of a figure of 8. In consequence, however, of the bad view of the sport which it afforded to the spectators, it gave place to another of an oval form in 1813. This, the present course, has undergone considerable alteration in lowering the hills, &c., and is now allowed to be one of the prettiest in the kingdom.

In 1777, the Corporation of Nottingham granted a lease of the course to Lord Edward Bentinck and others, in trust for the noblemen and gentlemen of the county, containing a covenant that, in the event of a general inclosure act, such leasehold property should immediately revert to the Corporation. Accordingly, the Inclosure Act of 1845 authorized the Town Council to take possession of the property, and it is now vested in their hands.

Colwick Hall, near this town, was built about this period by 1776
Mr. S. Stretton, of Nottingham, under the direction of Mr. John
Carr, of York, architect.

1777.

June.—The organ in St. Mary's church, built by the cele- 1777
brated Snezzler, of Oxford-road, London, was opened this month.

June 18.—The Rev. J. Wesley, in his diary of this date, pays the following compliment to his followers :—"I preached at Nottingham to a serious, loving congregation. There is something in the people of this town which I cannot but much approve of, although most of our society are of the lower class, chiefly employed in the stocking manufacture; yet there is generally an uncommon gentleness and sweetness in their temper, and something of elegance in their behaviour, which, when added to solid, vital religion, makes them an ornament to their profession."

September 6.—The *Journal* of this date gives the subjoined description of ladies' undress for August :—"The ladies' fashionable undress, commonly called a *dishabille*, to pay visits in the morning, also for walking in the country, on account of its being neat, light, and short, consists of a jacket, the front part of which is made like a sultana; the back part is cut out in four pieces; the middle part is not wider at the bottom than about half an inch; the sides in proportion very narrow. The materials most in vogue, are white muslins with a coloured printed border chintz pattern, printed on purpose in borders about an inch deep. The silks, which are chiefly lutestrings, are mostly trimmed with gauze. The gauze is tucked upon the bottom of the jacket, and edged with different coloured fringes. The petticoat is drawn up in a festoon, and tied with a true lover's knot, two tassels hanging down from each festoon. A short gauze apron, striped or figured, cut in three scollops at the bottom, and trimmed round with a broad trimming closely plaited; the middle of the apron has three scollops reversed. The cuffs are puckered in the shape of a double pine, one in front of the arm, the other behind, but the front rather lower. To complete this dress for summer walking the most elegant and delicate ladies carry a long japanned walking-cane with an ivory hook head, and on the middle of the cane is fastened a silk umbrella, or what the French call a parasol, which defends them from the sun and slight showers of rain. It opens by a spring, and it is pushed up towards the head of the cane when expanded for use. Hats, with the feathers spread, chiefly made of chip, covered with fancy gauze puckered, variegated artificial flowers, bell tassels, and other decorations are worn large. No alteration worth notice has taken place in gentlemen's dress except that they increase the size of their hats, and cock
the German military style."

1777

September 29.—The election of Mayor was attended by an attempt of the anti-Corporate party to throw the civic appointments open to the burgesses at large. According to custom, the Corporate body, after Divine service, rose from their seats in the chancel of St. Mary's, and proceeded to the south porch, where they all made a stand while the Town Clerk called over every member upon the clothing. As they responded to their names they re-entered the church, falling into two rows according to their seniority. This ceremony being over, the members proceeded to the vestry, and the Town Clerk called upon the Mayor to nominate his successor. His Worship proposed Mr. Alderman Richard Butler, who was approved of unanimously. Mr. Butler was then asked whom he named for his first Sheriff, and replied, Sir George Smith, Bart. Here, proceeds the account, the Court had a new scene opened to their view, by one of the Junior Council putting up Mr. S. Creswell to serve the office of Sheriff, a gentleman who had never been elected into any office in the body. At the same instant, the vestry door by some means flew open, and a number of burgesses rushed into the place, the presence of whom for a few moments rather alarmed the Corporation, as their company was neither expected nor desired. On being asked what they wanted, a butcher advanced to the table and nominated as Sheriffs, Mr. Lambert and Mr. Dale. The Corporation, however, insisted upon every burgess not upon the clothing immediately leaving the vestry, a step they accordingly took. Mutual recrimination of a very warm nature, between the old body and the Junior Council relative to the interruption, was the immediate and natural consequence. On its cessation, Sir George Smith was declared duly elected. The Mayor then nominated Mr. Statham, an opulent hosier, as the other Sheriff, and he also was declared duly elected. The votes of the Junior Council being given to Messrs. Creswell and Dale, were not recorded in the Corporation books.

November 8.—The extreme difficulty in procuring authentic news, common to this period, may be illustrated by the subjoined extract from the local newspaper :—

Monday evening last, several gentlemen of this town received letters by the coach, with an account of a total defeat of General Washington's army in America obtained by his Majesty's forces under the command of General Sir William Howe. Soon after, this news was communicated to several gentlemen who were regaling themselves at different public houses in the town; and in consequence of the above interesting and most important intelligence arriving, the bells began to ring about one o'clock in the morning, and continued all Tuesday and the day following with but very little intermission. At intervals, several young men assembled themselves together on this joyful occasion, each armed with a gun, and paraded the streets, frequently discharging the same, which was immediately re-echoed with uncommon shouts of applause. The populace procured an ass, on which they erected a figure representing the rebel General Washington dressed in military character, which was repeatedly fired at and after that committed to the flames. We were also amused with the expectation of a Gazette extraordinary arriving to confirm the accounts contained in the above letters, and also in one received here on Tuesday, from a gentleman who had heard the purport of an express which reached the Duke of Newcastle's, Clumber Park, on the previous day. The same day we also received a Glasgow

newspaper confirming the above advices. After receiving so many accounts (all agreeing with each other) of such important news, who could be otherwise than in an elevated state.—No extraordinary Gazette has yet (Saturday) arrived with a confirmation, notwithstanding that it is generally believed to be true, although Government had not received their official accounts from Sir William Howe. 1777

It is scarcely necessary to add there was no foundation for the total defeat so enthusiastically greeted.

As some workmen were digging on that part of Standard-hill known as "Derry Mount," they disclosed a number of human bones in a good state of preservation, though they had doubtless lain there since the great civil war. In one of the skulls there was evidently a bullet hole. A dagger was found alongside one of the skeletons, and also a silver and a copper coin. On the latter (a tradesman's token) was the inscription, "Thomas Cheshire at the King's Head, Fore-street, 1669, his half-penny."

Bestwood Park, the property of the Duke of St. Alban's, was brought into a state of cultivation about this period.

The Erewash canal, 11½ miles in length, connecting the Trent with the Cromford canal, was in process of formation.

1778.

January.—The framework-knitters apply to Parliament for 1778 a law to raise the rate of wages, to lower the charge for frame rent, and to prevent abuses and frauds in the trade. Their petition was presented by Daniel Parker Coke, Esq., M.P. for Derby, and purported to be the prayer of the framework-knitters generally. It stated that they had served regular apprenticeships, and had always employed themselves in making stockings, mitts, and gloves, on the stocking frame, of silk, cotton, thread, and worsted, and notwithstanding their utmost industry were incapable of providing the common necessities of life, not only on account of the small quantity of their wages, but the paying of frame rent, and other charges in keeping the frames in working order: they therefore prayed the House that leave might be given to bring in a bill to settle and regulate the wages of persons employed in the art of framework knitting in such a manner as to the House should seem meet. The House ordered the petition to be referred to a committee, who were to report thereupon. The committee accordingly proceeded to hear the evidence of the petitioners, and numbers of the workmen presented themselves for that purpose. The hosiers, who had formed an association in self defence, appointed Mr. Samuel Turner, an attorney, their secretary and agent; but such was the restraint in which they were held, arising from fear of popular displeasure, that, though very desirous of submitting evidence against the bill, not one of them had the courage to venture his person, property, and character against the general odium of the working classes. Finding it necessary, however, to make some sort of defence, Turner induced two

1778 master stockingers, Henry Cox and James Thorpe, to give evidence against the petition, doubtless under the idea that by so doing the hosiers would throw in their way a greater number of frames. The committee of the House, aware of the position of the hosiers, dispensed with the counter evidence, and made a report, upon which a bill was founded. On the 25th February, upon the motion of Lord E. Bentinck that the bill be brought in, the House divided, when the numbers were, 27 for its admission, and 52 against it. As may readily be conceived, the defeated petitioners were angrily excited, and poured their vials of wrath upon Cox, Thorpe, and Lawyer Turner. The first of the trio had his house beset, his windows broken, his family terrified, and his life threatened; whilst the two latter had attacks made upon them by stones being thrown through their bedroom windows at night. For the discovery of the perpetrators of these offences, the hosiers' association offered the insignificant reward of ten guineas.

The activity of the recruiting parties at this memorable epoch in our national history is worthy of comment. The stern necessity for men to serve in America and the East Indies had led to the embodiment of numerous corps of local militia, for the threefold purpose of liberating the regular troops for colonial service, maintaining the defence of the country by the militia remaining at home, and furnishing volunteers in a state of discipline. Great inducements were held out. Nor were the authorities very particular as to the qualification of recruits. It was simply required that men should be 5ft. 4in. in stature, and under 35 years of age; and lads 5ft. 1in. high, and under 20. It was an almost everyday occurrence for apprentices, especially those connected with the framework knitting branches, who as a body were hardly dealt with, to clandestinely forsake their employment and accept his Majesty's bounty.

An advertisement for ten substitutes to serve in the Regiment of Nottinghamshire Marksmen, or 42nd Battalion of Militia, of which we have a copy, offered the following artfully constructed bait:—"They will be welcomed to a good English ordinary of roast beef and plum pudding, and a ticket for the play at night, will be paid a handsome bounty, and be quartered in the delightful and plentiful town of Kingston-upon-Hull, where excellent ale is sold at only threepence the full quart, fish of the best quality at one penny per pound, and shambles meat at a lower rate than in most towns in the kingdom." Applicants were referred to Mrs. Scott's, the Eight Bells, near St. Peter's church.

January 14.—A woman named Shaw, daughter of the landlord of the Elephant and Castle Tavern, in Hounds-gate, was proceeding this evening along Greyfriars-gate, in a state of partial intoxication, when she fell into a place called "the Sough,"* and

* A deep and uncovered receptacle for the sewage of the neighbourhood.

being unable to get out, lay there all night. A labourer noticed her in the morning as he was passing by, and was endeavouring to extricate her from her most miserable situation, when she heaved a deep sigh and instantly expired. 1778

January.—The sum of £100 was subscribed in Nottingham for the relief of Americans confined in English prisons. A similar subscription was raised in most of the large towns, the destitute condition in which the captives were kept rendering the exercise of benevolence necessary.

February 11.—A recruiting party of the Royal Manchester Volunteers beat round the town at night with an elegant blue flag, and twelve flambeaux, accompanied by a number of butchers, who rang melodious peals on their cleavers. They succeeded in enlisting nearly fifty recruits.

April.—A number of gentlemen entered into a subscription to repair the labyrinth known as "Shepherd's," or "Robin Hood's Race." The course of years had so erased the paths that the ancient form of the race had become almost obliterated. The gentlemen, however, who had undertaken its renovation obtained a plan of its ancient outline, and had the paths cut out afresh. The Shepherd's Race was situated upon the plains near St. Ann's Well, upon what was usually called Sneinton Common. Its various turnings and windings were no less remarkable than intricate, every line and curve being laid down geometrically, rendering the whole agreeable and uniform.

Dr. Deering has left an interesting description of it. He says—

Shepherd's Race is made somewhat in imitation of those of the ancient Greeks and Romans, who made such intricate courses for their youth to run in to acquire agility of body. Dr. Stukeley, in his *Itinerary*, speaks of one of Roman origin still in being at Aukborough, in the county of Lincoln, called *Julian's Bower*, which comes pretty near ours; he says it is a kind of circular work made of banks of earth in the fashion of a maze or labyrinth, and that the boys to this day divert themselves with running in it one after the other; that which I mentioned differs from the Doctor's in that it pretends to no Roman origin, and yet is more ancient than the Reformation, as is evident from the cross crossets in the centres of the four lesser rounds; and in that there are no banks raised, but circular trenches cut into the turf, and those so narrow that persons cannot run in them, but must run on the top of the turf. Nobody can at this time give any account when it was first made, nor by whom; neither is it known whose business it is to keep it in repair; but might I offer my conjecture, I should think this open maze was made by some of the priests belonging to St. Ann's chapel, who being confined so far as not to venture out of sight or hearing, contrived this to give themselves a breathing for want of other exercise.

The cross crosset at the corners cannot, however, be deemed conclusive as a proof that the maze was cut before the Reformation, it being as probable that the designer attached no significance to it whatever, or that it was intended as a compliment to some person who bore the cross crosset *fitchée* on his arms. The Doctor thinks the name, Shepherd's Race, of questionable antiquity. Blackner conjectures that this labyrinth was cut by the shepherds in days of yore, when tending their flocks. Be this as it may, the site so long sacred to rural recreation was ploughed up on the

1778 27th of February, 1797, on inclosing the lordship of Sneinton.
Blackner remarks—

Thus a spot of earth, comprehending about 324 square yards (only about the fifteenth part of an acre), sanctified by the lapse of centuries as a place of rustic sport, by the curiosity of its shape and by the magic raptures which the sight of it awakened in our fancies of the existence of happier times, could not escape the hand of avarice, which breaks down the fences of our comfort, the mounds of our felicity, and destroys the reverence of our custom, if an object of gain or of ambition presents itself to view. Here the youth of Nottingham were wont to give facility to the circulation of their blood, strength to their limbs, and elasticity to their joints; but callous-hearted avarice has robbed them of the spot.

June.—The Nottinghamshire Militia left Nottingham for Hull. The regiment left the town in two divisions. The first set out on the 10th, at five in the morning, and did not halt till they arrived at Hazleford Ferry, where they partook of refreshment, and after several cheers for their commander, Lord George Sutton, resumed their march. The second set out on the following morning. Their appearance was very creditable and soldier-like. Notwithstanding their departure so early in the morning, the multitude of men, women, and children that accompanied them to the outskirts of the town was astonishingly large.

July 6.—Death of Mrs. Margaret Middleton, at her house in Bridlesmith-gate, aged 100 years. The deceased lady was a direct descendant of the celebrated Sir Hugh Middleton, who spent a fortune of £400,000 in supplying London with water. She had lived in Nottingham eighty years, and her remains were interred near those of Lady Mary Brabazon, with whom she had been intimately acquainted, in the chancel of St. Mary's church.

August 25.—Death of Sir Charles Sedley, Bart., aged 58 years, at his seat at Nuttal. He was a Member of Parliament for Nottingham, one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, a Doctor of Law of the University of Oxford, and Ranger and Keeper of the King's Chase in this neighbourhood. He was a great promoter of racing, and much of the celebrity attached to Nottingham races (then among the first in the country) was attributable to his exertions. Dying without issue the title became extinct.

September 28.—The Hon. Charles Medows, the nephew and heir of the late Duke of Kingston, having declared himself a candidate to represent the town in the Tory interest, and being attended by Sir Gervase Clifton, Bart., John Musters, Esq., and other gentlemen of influence, commenced a diligent canvass. In consequence of this, a meeting of electors, called together by the Whig party, was held at Thurland Hall, on the evening of the same day. The large room was densely filled, and when silence had been several times called for, business was opened by Mr. Sands, who said that some gentlemen of the opposite side had brought forward a candidate whose views were not at all coincident with the general sense of the constituency; he therefore introduced to their notice the claims of Abel Smith, jun., Esq. Mr. Smith

then came forward, and addressed the burgesses, assuring them that, if elected, he would assert their rights and privileges to the utmost. Sir Gervase Clifton next presented himself, and urged the pretensions of Mr. Medows, who was not present; but on a show of hands, Mr. Smith was almost unanimously approved of. The next seven or eight days were occupied by a very close canvass on both sides, the result of which was, that on the 7th October the Whig candidate received a polite letter from his opponent, declining to proceed further with the contest. Mr. Smith immediately waited upon Mr. Medows at the White Lion inn, and received a confirmation of the tidings. The news speedily spread, "and in less than half-an-hour," states the *Journal*, "the inhabitants assembled in great numbers, and testified every mark of approbation. The bells began to ring about eleven o'clock, and though so late in the evening the people were as brisk and alert as at noonday. Expresses were despatched to various parts of the kingdom in order to stop those voters who had been solicited to support Mr. Smith; and the bells continued to ring with very little intermission most part of the next day."

On the 9th, at the place of election, Jonathan Trueman, Esq., nominated Abel Smith, jun., Esq., a native of the town, as a proper person to represent it in Parliament, and no other candidate being proposed, three hearty cheers were given, and he was declared duly elected. A chair, elegantly decorated with white lace, made from an adaptation of the stocking frame, having been provided, Mr. Smith seated himself therein, and being joined by the whole body of framework knitters, the procession set out from the Feathers inn, in the following order:—

Six men with white staves, two and two.

The Union Flag.

The arms of the late Lord Mayor of London, John Sawbridge, Esq., a brother framework knitter, with the motto of "Liberty and Law."

A fine new flag of the associated framework knitters of Nottingham, on which was painted a stocking frame, with two supporters, the ingenious Dr. Lee, inventor, and the lady he paid his addresses to, engaged in knitting, with the following words inscribed thereon:—"Strength, Fortitude, and Unity surmount the greatest difficulties."

The Royal arms.

The arms of the city of London.

A most superb streamer, twelve yards long, with the stocking frame and supporters, the same as the Nottingham flag; the regalia of the city of London, &c.

After these ensigns followed the beadle of the framework knitters' company, with his staff of office.

Two deputies from the company.

Mr. Rozzell, deputy, from Leicester.

The committee of the associated framework knitters, two and two.

Mr. Pilkington, their clerk.

Body of framework knitters, two and two.

Four whiffers with blue and white sashes.

The two town flags.

French horns, clarionets, bassoons, trumpets, drums, fifes, and mainsprings played alternately.

Abel Smith, jun., Esq.

The *Journal* adds, "After the procession the newly-elected member alighted at the Feathers inn, amidst the loudest acclama-

1778 tions of a united populace.* Upon the whole we don't recollect an election where a member was received with such general approbation and applause, not the least confusion, disorder, or irregularity happening. The ladies and gentlemen crowded to the windows and doors clapping their hands and waving their handkerchiefs in the air."

In the afternoon Mr. Smith entertained his leading friends and supporters at a dinner, in Thurland Hall, and at night, a brilliant assembly met for dancing at the room on the Low-pavement, and many hogsheads of ale were given to the populace in the Market-place.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Oldknow entered a second time upon the office of Mayor.

October.—Death of the Right Honourable Henry Earl of Lincoln, Knight of the Shire, and Lieutenant-Colonel of the Militia, in the 28th year of his age. His Lordship died in France, on his way to Italy.

October 31.—Major John Cartwright addressed the electors of the county, offering himself to their notice, as a candidate for their representation. The ultra nature of his opinions is manifest by the following extract:—"The first great object of my public actions has been, and ever shall continue to be so long as health and strength shall remain to me, to hunt down the fiend of corruption, which hath well nigh reduced the Parliament of Great Britain to an abject level with that of Paris, and to emancipate the Grand Council of the Kingdom from the pernicious and traitorous influence of Ministers; for, until that shall be done, it would be ridiculous for us to imagine that we live in a free country." The Major's political views do not seem to have corresponded with those of the electors; and on the entrance of another candidate, in the person of the Hon. Charles Medows, he prudently withdrew from the field. Mr. Medows was accordingly elected without opposition, on the 9th December, and the customary chairing and rejoicings followed. In the procession were two handsome blue flags, belonging to burgesses of the town, and the colours of the Duke of Kingston's Light Horse, the disbanded regiment raised in 1745 for the suppression of the rebellion.

The family of Major Cartwright was of great antiquity in this county. By his mother's side he was related to the Pierrepont and Bentinck families, and several of his paternal ancestors had sat in the House of Commons. His father, William Cartwright, Esq., resided at Marnham, and his brother, the Rev. Dr. Cartwright, a Fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford, was one of the

* Mr. Smith's popularity was attributable chiefly to his benevolence and deep sympathy with the distresses of the framework knitters. That industrious section of the community were expecting legislative aid, and looked upon Mr. Smith as their future champion in Parliament. The Framework Knitters' Company were also at this time making strenuous exertions to induce the Nottingham hands to join their incorporation, offering to give them freedom for the nominal sum of half-a-crown. Very few availed themselves of questionable privilege

most distinguished mechanical inventors of the day, having originated the power loom, for which he obtained a patent, and likewise a grant from Parliament of £10,000. The Major was before the world as an author and public character upwards of fifty years, and whatever opinion may be entertained with respect to the particular views which he consistently maintained throughout his career, there was but one voice with regard to his private character, and that, eulogistic. He was a gentleman in the true sense of the term. Major Cartwright entered the navy in 1758, under Lord Howe, at the age of 18; was present, that year, at the siege of Cherbourg; and in 1759 he was in the attack in which Sir E. Hawke defeated Conflans. His generous ardour displayed itself by his leaping from a 90-gun ship under sail, in the presence of Lord Howe and the Duke of York, to save the life of a young gentleman who had fallen overboard. Being made a Lieutenant in 1762, under Sir Hugh Pallister and Admiral Byron, he distinguished himself for five years successively in his able and upright administration of justice in the extensive districts committed to his jurisdiction, by supplying the defects of the law in cases of difficulty with judgment, address, and firmness. In 1771, the Major quitted his station for the recovery of his health, and during his retirement wrote a pamphlet on the Rights and Interests of the Adventurers in the Newfoundland Fishery, and the Neglects of the Legislature. He also drew up a plan for supplying oak to the navy by cultivating the Royal forests.

In 1774, his feelings were roused against the projects for subduing America, and he published his first treatise on politics under the title of "American Independence the Interest and Glory of Great Britain." In August, 1775, he received a commission as Major in the Nottinghamshire Militia. The same year, he published a letter to Edmund Burke, Esq., in reply to his speech on the principles of the American Government. In the spring of 1776, he was invited by Lord Howe to accompany him on service—an invitation which implied rank and command, and probably wealth; but he refused to draw his sword against what he conceived to be the cause of liberty. The Major continued during the American war to publish various pamphlets on constitutional subjects; discharging, at the same time, his duties as a militia officer with exemplary assiduity. In 1780, he was the originator of a general meeting of the county of Nottingham for Parliamentary reform, which was very numerously attended, and at which a petition to Parliament, and a committee of correspondence, were voted. The Duke of Portland presided over this committee, and Lord Edward Bentinck, his brother, was afterwards delegated to assist at the convention of deputies from the petitioning counties and towns. — Major, with Mr. Capel Loft and Dr. John Jebb, instituted a Society for Constitutional Information in 1781. — The Society presented petitions to Parliaments and universal suffrage to the Peers of the realm,

1778 and by many distinguished and wealthy Commoners. The list of members prefixed to two volumes of tracts published by the Society establishes the fact. The Resolutions of the Westminster Committee in 1780, signed by Mr. Fox, and the Report of the Sub-Committee, signed by Mr. Sheridan, seem to go as far as ever the Major or the Duke of Richmond (the most uncompromising Radicals of the day) ever ventured.

About the year 1788, Major Cartwright embarked in the manufacture of woad on an extensive scale, and purchased an estate in Lincolnshire, where he shortly afterwards fixed his residence. In 1780, he declared himself, on invitation from a majority of the voters, a candidate to represent Retford; but his views being "Reform," and theirs, the sale of their votes, the parties came to an understanding which precluded *his* standing.

On the 14th of July, 1791, the Major celebrated at the Crown and Anchor Hotel, London, the fall of the Bastille, and soon afterwards was informed by the Duke of Newcastle, Lord Lieutenant of the county, that he could not be promoted to a Lieutenant-Colonelcy of the Notts. Militia, and this being the case, he presumed he would resign immediately. The Major, however, would not take the expressive hint, and in the month of September was dismissed. The Deputy Lieutenants publicly thanked him for his services.

About the time of the State trials in 1794, he began to write his "Commonwealth in Danger," which was published in 1795. From that period to within a short time of his death, which took place in 1824, the Major was an active writer, and took a lively interest in all public affairs. He was also a constant attendant at all public meetings for purposes connected with independence and reform. Towards the close of his career, he underwent a trial, along with Mr. Wooller and others, for the part he took in fictitiously electing Sir Charles Wolsey, Bart., at a great public meeting, Member of Parliament for Birmingham, and was fined £100. The Major's property was inherited by a niece, and his remains were deposited in the family vault, at Finchley, near London.

November 15.—The remains of Mrs. Elizabeth Chaworth, which had come by easy stages from London, were received at the Blackmoor's Head inn. The body was brought in a hearse, attended by two mourning coaches (each with six horses), and several persons on horseback, preceded by a man carrying a noble plume of feathers. The corpse lay in state, during the evening, in the principal room of the inn, and great numbers of spectators were admitted. The procession set out again the next morning for Annesley, the burial place of the family.

November 19.—The Right Hon. Lord Charles Montagu marched into the town at the head of the Huntingdonshire Militia, of which regiment his lordship's brother, the Duke of Manchester, was Colonel. They remained in Nottingham three

1779.

January 26.—Abel Smith, jun., Esq., merchant, of Hull, and Member for Nottingham, died at his father's house in this town, in his 31st year. This lamented gentleman, thus early removed from a useful and honourable life, served the office of High Sheriff in 1776, and was universally esteemed. His remains were interred in the family vault at St. Peter's, in the chapel of All Saints. 1779

February 5.—The great Banqueting Room over the Exchange, as it was termed, was densely crowded by freeholders and burgesses for the purpose of fixing upon a candidate for the vacancy in the representation in Parliament. Robert Smith, Esq. (brother of the late member, and afterwards Lord Carington), was unanimously selected.

February 9.—The day of nomination at the Exchange. Mr. Smith was received with great enthusiasm, and was elected without a dissentient voice. His speech on the occasion may be regarded, in respect of brevity and expressiveness, as a pattern to those representatives who, in the present day, are frequently heard saying much more, but found to be performing very much less. It was as follows :—

Gentlemen,—The persevering zeal and unanimity in your choice of me for your Representative in Parliament, demands the warmest thanks a grateful heart can express. My sentiments on this occasion have been sufficiently explained, both in public and private. Permit me therefore to assure you that I shall invariably pursue the same line of conduct adopted by my late brother; and if Divine Providence shall please to spare my life, I will endeavour to discharge the important trust to the satisfaction of you, my fellow citizens.

The public chairing, immediately after the election, was solemn rather than triumphant. The chair itself was covered with black and white silk, and its occupant was of course in deep mourning.

February 15.—Great public rejoicings to celebrate the acquittal of Admiral Keppel, who had been tried by court martial for misconduct and neglect of duty, or, in other words, for not having destroyed the French fleet, when it was alleged he had an opportunity of so doing. At noon, three companies of the Huntingdonshire Militia were drawn up in the Market-place, and discharged several *feux de joie* in honour of the Admiral. Between each, the men gave three loud huzzas, and the band struck up triumphant strains. In the evening, the Exchange windows, the residence of Lord Charles Montagu, the Blackmoor's Head and White Lion inns, and several gentlemen's houses, were brilliantly illuminated. A large bonfire was made in Carlton-street, where an effigy, representing Sir Hugh Pallister (the chief witness against the Admiral), well dressed, was shot at by the populace, and then

1779 committed to the flames. The bells rang merrily, and the rejoicing was very general.

February.—The deeply settled desire of the framework knitters for Legislative interference having acquired greater strength, large subscriptions were raised, and a petition presented to Parliament, similar to that of the preceding year. A committee was again appointed to inquire into its merits. The evidence attested the low rate of wages, and the high rate of frame rent; and a master from Alferton proved that his workmen's clear earnings did not average 7s. per week.

On the part of the hosiers, Mr. Need (in partnership with Arkwright) stated in evidence that the workmen were sufficiently remunerated; that such were the advantages of the manufacture, the more children a workman had the better was his condition in life; that a reduction of frame rent would prove ruinous to the manufacture by preventing persons from owning frames; and that if a bill passed to restrict their business, the hosiers would sell their frames and retire from the trade, as they would be undersold by the French. The evidence of an apprentice to a man named Wilkinson had also great weight. This lad, who was henceforth called "the miraculous boy," swore that he could earn 20s. per week with great facility and ease. The Committee, however, reported in favour of bringing in the bill.

In May, Mr. Medows moved for leave to bring in the bill, which was glowingly described by Mr. Smith, the newly elected Member, while speaking in its favour as one "moistened and saturated with the tears of the poor and their distressed families." Leave to bring in the bill was carried with but one dissentient voice, and its promoters in Nottingham were so highly elated, that every means was instantly employed to raise money to carry it through its future stages. Publicans had everywhere subscription lists, butchers and other tradesmen canvassed their customers, and every street and village almost had its collector. The second reading, a short time after, was carried by a majority of one, the numbers being 24 against 23; but on the third reading, the bill was lost by a majority of 57 to 18.

Intelligence of the defeat of the bill reached Nottingham on the 10th of June, which was then a great holiday among the Tories or Jacobites, who wore white roses in honour of the Pretender's birthday. In a very short time the whole town was in a ferment. The Market-place became the rallying-place for the malcontents, and at about ten at night their anger burst forth into open violence. The women and boys commenced the work by rushing up the numerous yards into Parliament-street, where they broke every pane of glass in the house of Mr. James, an extensive hosier. From thence they went to the premises of another Mr. James, in Bearward-lane, and inflicted a similar act of vengeance. The obnoxious Mr. Need was the next recipient of their benevolence. They proceeded to

orderly manner, and demolished every window, door, shutter, and tile of his house. The windows of a master stockinger named Baker, who lived on the opposite side of the way, were involved in the same ruin. Mr. Wilkinson, of "miraculous boy" notoriety, was their next victim; his windows were destroyed, and his furniture broken. So unexpected was the riot, that the magistrates and the officers of the Oxford Blues (Royal Horse Guards) were attending a ball at the Race-stand, and upon the bugle sounding to arms the officers mounted at midnight in their ball dresses, and proceeded to the Market-place, where they remained until day-break. 1779

The exasperated people reassembled at nine the next morning, and demolished the house and furniture of Mr. F. Hall, in Parliament-street. The magistrates read the riot act, and the throng divided, only however the more effectually to promote its common purpose. The divisions took different routes, joining together again at Messrs. Need and Arkwright's mill, the windows of which were broken immediately. The soldiers arrived too late, for the mob, knowing that without caution and concert they were comparatively powerless, had adjourned into St. Mary's-gate, and after wreaking their vengeance upon the house and furniture of "lawyer Turner," dispersed. The better to counteract the popular irritation, the soldiers separated into files, and commenced a series of patrols; but being at length weary returned to their quarters. They had scarcely dismounted and began to feed their horses, ere the house of Mr. Churchill, in Wheeler-gate, became the centre of attack, and so great was the destruction, that the occupier thought it better to leave the town than repair it, and accordingly settled at Sheepshed as a hosier. The succeeding movement was a simultaneous attack upon a number of hosiers of like character, by different detachments. Another desperate assault was made upon Need's mill, which was vainly attempted to be set on fire; but in this case the soldiers had received an intimation of the design, and made a successful defence. While the military were thus guarding the mill, the mob, leaving a part of their number to engage the attention of the magistrates and soldiers, made a rapid march of four miles to Arnold, where they attacked Mr. Need's country house, destroying the furniture, breaking up the staircase, and bringing down the roof. While this destruction was going on at Arnold, another body of rioters broke into his town coach house, destroyed his carriage and harness, and conveying the mutilated fragments into the Meadows, threw them into the Chainy-pool. The instigators of all this mischief, with a view of further diverting the attention of the authorities while it was being carried on, had collected a large crowd of people in St. Peter's church-yard, which, when the military arrived to dislodge them, was so dense that the soldiers could scarcely move, and it was not until an hour had elapsed (in which time the rioters were elsewhere), and several persons had sustained severe injury,

1779 that the place was cleared. Mr. Need having been "sufficiently punished," says the *Journal*, "they all ran away to sleep easy and happy."

The succeeding day was marked by renewed disturbances. The military, by constantly patrolling in files, preserved something like order until the afternoon, when the mob assailed in the usual manner the premises of Mr. Braithwaite. When the evening set in they broke the windows of Mr. Wright, in the Market-place, and then divided into detachments, destroying the property of their opponents till midnight.

The next day (Sunday) was unattended by any disturbance; but about noon on Monday, the stockingers from the villages began to pour into the town, and they being, if possible, still more greatly exasperated, the popular vengeance assumed a new form. They broke into a house in Broad-marsh, brought out a stocking frame, bore it in triumph to the Malt Cross, and there broke it to pieces. Numbers of hosiers and middle-men suffered in like manner; their shops were forcibly entered, their frames thrown out of the windows and demolished, and the bars and other parts thrown into deep wells. In the afternoon, the town was consequently in a most feverish state; the soldiers were again moving, the riot act was read, public business was suspended and the shops closed, and the greatest alarm prevailed, the streets being filled with enraged and reckless men. The military adopted the manœuvre of patrolling by videttes instead of files, supported by strong picquets. In the height of the storm oil was poured upon the troubled waters in a way which shows how powerfully an appeal to reason will sometimes triumph over the passions of a mob. About eight in the evening, an individual harangued the multitude in the Market-place, and after exhorting them to behave more like citizens, assured them that the hosiers would hold a three counties meeting on the morrow, with a view to redress their grievances. Tranquility was at once restored, two men who had been taken prisoners by the soldiers were released, the people went peaceably to their homes, and the soldiers to their quarters, as though nothing had happened.

In consequence of the hosiers failing to satisfy their demands, on Tuesday, June 21, further acts of violence were proceeded with, and on the day but one following, three hundred of Mr. Need's frames were destroyed at Arnold. On the return of the rioters to Nottingham, they determined to inflict further punishment on Wilkinson, who had been guilty of the double offence of procuring evidence against them, and building a house on the commonable land (then a flagrant crime), and accordingly set to work ere the military had time to interpose. The encroachment was speedily levelled to the ground, though in accomplishing the work of destruction a man named Mephringham, in pulling down the chimney, fell with it from the roof unhurt.

The precautions of the authorities became now unusually

strict. The Mayor issued a proclamation, in which he stated that "further lenity would be a crime, and that the vigilance of justice should be exerted in its utmost severity." On the 19th, the hosiers, by advertisement, declared themselves one compact body to punish offenders, and to grant encouragement to those who were peaceably inclined: and an order was issued to a great number of constables, who had been sworn in specially, to assemble in the Market-place on the ringing of the Exchange bell. All this display of energy had a good effect; but that which most powerfully stemmed the current of disaffection was a conciliatory advertisement from the hosiers, in which they stated that "they would remove every oppression, providing a cessation of the riot took place." Order was thus re-established.

Anthony Mephringham and several others were charged at the Summer Assizes with the capital offence of pulling down the house, and breaking a number of frames. A most desperate deed was undertaken to save him. The nature of it, and the narrow escape that followed, will be seen by the following extract from Mr. Gravenor Henson's *History of the Framework Knitters* :—

The principal and only witness to the fact of pulling down the house was Benjamin Leavers. In the dead of the night Leavers was surprised in his bed by a man named Herring, and two others, in disguise, who showed him a wet towel, and told him he had not a moment longer to live if he hesitated in going with them; in this situation, with death before his eyes, he immediately consented, suffered himself to be blind-folded, and at daylight in the morning he was unbound upon Charnwood Forest, Leicestershire, and made to swear that he would accompany them, and keep the secret. He was then conveyed across the Forest, and halted in the neighbourhood of the Copt Oak until nightfall, when they again resumed their march all night; thus sleeping in the copses or woods by day, and travelling all night, he was conveyed into Essex, and kept until information was received from Nottingham of Mephringham's acquittal. Leavers faithfully kept the secret on his return, his guards having treated him with the greatest attention consistent with their errand. The object of all this solicitude was the least moved of any of the parties concerned; on the evening preceding the trial, when his attorney, under pretence of conferring with him, went to assure him of his safety, he was found in his cell in the most profound sleep, and was with difficulty awakened; on being acquainted with the efforts which had been made to save his life he merely smiled, and said, "Then I suppose I am not to be hanged." On the morning of his trial, the court was filled with hosiers and gentry from a considerable distance, but the consternation was great when it was discovered that Leavers was missing. Mephringham was arraigned, and consequently acquitted, but was removed by habeas corpus to the county jail to take his trial for frame breaking at Arnold. The grand jury having found a bill of indictment against him, he was arraigned for breaking a stocking frame at Arnold, the property of William Burton, a framesmith. The hosiers had taken the unmanly precaution to retain all the counsellors at Lincoln, except Mr. Malzell, who refused the fee with indignation. The indictment was such a matter of difficulty that the counsellors held a special consultation upon it; the 12th Geo. I. made it a capital offence to break frames in the hosiery manufacture, the 6th Geo. III. only related to silk weaving, and the offence was not comprehended in the Black Act (9th Geo. I.), therefore an attempt was made to indict for a riot; this bill being thrown out, one for frame breaking was substituted, and the evidence being clear, he was found guilty. Judge Gould, who tried him, asked repeatedly, "Is there none to give this man a character?" A hosier, named Barratt had the impudence to declare that none could; upon which Herring addressed the court saying that he could find witnesses to character. "I will give you twenty minutes," exclaimed Justice Gould; and Herring had the good fortune to procure, in that short time Peet, the master to whom Mephringham was apprenticed, and Matthew Bagshaw, a Methodist preacher,

1779 with whom he worked, who both gave him an excellent character. Barratt was so chagrined that he roared out in court, "They both are not worth ten pounds," for which he was ordered into custody. The Judge deferred passing sentence, and on his arrival at his lodgings, he found the wife and children of the culprit, who knelt at his feet and prayed for mercy. This was granted, for Mephringham was sentenced to pay a fine of 6s. 8d., to be imprisoned three weeks, and to find sureties for his good behaviour for a year. Four others, for breaking windows, were fined 6s. 8d. and 10s., and discharged; whilst John Peck, for wounding W. C. Sherbrooke, Esq., a justice of the peace, with a stone, was liberated on asking pardon of that gentleman in open court.

March 5.—The freedom of the Corporation was unanimously voted to the Hon. Augustus Keppel, Admiral of the Blue, for his gallant behaviour of the 27th and 28th of July last.

March 10.—At the assizes, this day, a cause was tried before Mr. Baron Eyre, wherein Mr. William Baker, cordwainer, was plaintiff, and Mr. Munton, and other butchers of this town, were defendants. The trial was touching the butchers claiming the sole right of pasturage for their sheep in Nottingham Meadows (exclusive of the burgesses at large), from Martinmas to Candlemas. This they did by virtue of a bye-law of the Corporation, dated the 1st of January, in the 27th of Henry VIII., which conferred the said right on them and their successors for ever, on the condition of their paying the sum of four nobles* per annum, in consideration of which the Corporation allowed them annually four loads of thorns, the wardens elected by the butchers paying the expense of repairing the fences after each Martinmas. In support of their claim the defendants produced several very aged persons and sundry documents, and clearly established the fact that the nobles had been regularly paid until within a few years of the trial. The record however setting forth that the butchers had paid, "and still continue to pay down to the present time," the Judge was clearly of opinion that they had failed in their case, as they had not chosen wardens for several years, nor had they tendered the nobles to the Corporation. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff, with 1s. damages.

June.—The Nottinghamshire Militia marched from Hull to an encampment on South Sea Common, near Portsmouth. The march was performed in twenty days, though a similar body of troops might now be moved the same distance by railway in half the number of hours. A record of each day's march is subjoined:—June 9, Hull to Glanford-bridge; 10, to Gainsborough; 11, to Retford and Tuxford; 12, to Newark; 13, halt; 14, to Grantham; 15, to Melton Mowbray; 16, to Oakham and Uppingham; 17, halt; 18, to Kettering; 19, to Newport Pagnall; 20, halt; 21, to Stoney Stratford; 22, to Aylesbury; 23, to Tame, Watlington, and Bennington; 24, halt; 25, to Altham; 26, to Petersfield; 27, halt; 28, to South Sea Common.

July 2.—The freedom of the town was presented to Corporation to Lieut.-Colonel Tuffnell and the c^d

* A noble was equivalent to 6s. 8d.

Oxford Blues, quartered in the town, for their zeal and unwearied attention in assisting the civil power to suppress the late dangerous tumult. The Corporation voted at the same time a handsome gratuity to the non-commissioned officers and privates. 1779

July 3.—William Yeadon, keeper of the Scrooby toll bar, and his mother, Mary Yeadon, who lived with him, were murdered, and their house plundered, by a person of the name of John Spencer, a native of North Leverton. In a most barbarous manner he fractured their skulls by repeated blows with a heavy hedgestake. He was soon after taken, and when tried a few days subsequently in Nottingham, was sentenced to be executed, and to have his body hung in chains near the place where the bloody deed was perpetrated. The sentence was received by him with apparent composure; but on the next day he cried very bitterly, and made a full confession. He said that, being unable to meet his payments, he could think of no other expedient to raise money than robbing the toll house. Accordingly, at eight o'clock on the evening of the murder, he went to the bar, and talked some time with the mother and son, and then wished them good night. Retiring on to the common and making himself satisfied that no one was about, he after a while returned, and called upon the son, who in the meantime had retired to rest, to assist him in driving some beast through the turnpike; but on making his appearance he knocked him down with a spiked hedgestake, and repeated the blows unmercifully. He then went into the house, took a watch off the chimney-piece, proceeded up stairs, and killed Mrs. Yeadon as she lay fast asleep in bed. This being done, he ran out of the house in a state of great trepidation, scarcely knowing, he said, what he did.

At eleven o'clock on the following Monday morning the malefactor was placed in a cart, and conveyed to the usual place of execution. He was remarkably dejected, frequently bursting into tears, and fainted two or three times on the journey. Under the gallows some minutes were spent in prayer, the singers went through a psalm, the unhappy man, upon whom many thousand eyes were fixed, repeated a short prayer, and the world closed upon him for ever. After hanging the usual time, the body was removed to Scrooby, and there hung in chains with the hedgestake in its right hand. Spencer was a good looking young man, about 5 feet 9 inches high, well made, and of robust constitution.

Few spectacles more dismal can be conceived than that which the corpse of the murderer presented to the benighted traveller who might happen to cross the lonely common, as it swung to and fro in the wind. Society is now happily spared

the inflictions. After the body had hung a few weeks, a curious

stance arose. A party of soldiers in charge of a deserter

in place, the sergeant fired his carbine at the corpse

and a stench almost unbearable for several

1779 days afterwards. The circumstance becoming known, the party was followed, and the sergeant taken into custody. He was subsequently tried by a court martial, and reduced to the ranks for the offence. Years rolled on, and the body gradually became less and less, first one bone dropping and then another, until nothing was left but the chains which originally encircled it, and these in course of time fell and were secretly conveyed away. The gibbet post was then, with its withered and weather-beaten arm, the only remaining evidence of the law's vengeance, and this, sixty-seven years after, still stood erect. Time, however, which had been gradually gnawing the loathed stump to its core, at length accomplished its task, and in April, 1846, the Scrooby gibbet post fell to the ground.

August 3.—The races which commenced this day (Tuesday) and extended over four days, drew to the town a very large influx of people. The Nottingham meeting enjoyed at this period great celebrity. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland (brother to George III.), attended by the Duke of Portland and a numerous circle of the nobility, was amongst the spectators.

The Royal Duke arrived at Mr. Pacey's, the White Lion inn, at ten in the morning of Wednesday, and the news quickly spreading, the bells of the churches began to ring, and the people flocked to the front of the inn under the idea of catching a glimpse of royalty. Nor were they disappointed, for the Duke repeatedly passed and repassed the window of his apartment, and frequently looked through. He appeared very cheerful, and was dressed in light blue regimentals. The Corporation deeming this a favourable opportunity for showing their loyalty hastily met together, and voted an address and the freedom of the town. The Mayor and Aldermen set out from the Exchange Hall at three o'clock to present them to his Royal Highness. Being admitted into his presence, Mr. Sheriff Heywood read the address, and it and the honorary distinction were received very graciously. The Duke then left the inn for the Race-course, and made his appearance in the Grand Stand, elegantly dressed in scarlet, with a brilliant star, and a blue ribbon across his shoulders. He several times spoke in praise of the course, and as soon as a race in which his own horse Pomona was engaged ended in it being second at the winning post (Mr. Wentworth's Honest Robin being first), his Royal Highness set off on his return to town.

August 3.—The nobility, gentry, and clergy of the county met in Nottingham for the purpose of raising a large county subscription, "to be applied for the public service of this kingdom in the present critical situation of affairs." Sir R. Sutton, Bart., presided, and it was resolved, after much discussion—

That the chairman of this committee do write to the Secretary-at-War transmitting him copies of the resolutions of the general meeting, and of committee, and do request him to move his Majesty to appoint ~~an~~ regiment to be recruited in this county, with the assistance of entered into, and that his Majesty be graciously pleased to ord^e henceforward to be distinguished by the name of the county.

The Right Hon. C. Jenkinson, Secretary-at-War, wrote in 1779
reply :—

War Office, August 6th, 1779.

Sir,—I have taken the first opportunity of laying before the King the resolutions of the committee of the nobility, gentry, and clergy of the county of Nottingham, which I had the honour of receiving in your letter of the 3rd instant.

The 45th Regiment of Foot will be immediately ordered to receive the recruits raised in Nottinghamshire.

I have it further in command from the King, to express his Majesty's earnest desire that the noblemen and gentlemen of the county of Nottingham, in addition to their very liberal subscription, will exert their personal influence in their respective neighbourhoods to promote the levy of men in the speediest and most effectual manner; and his Majesty authorises me to add, that whenever 300 men shall be raised and incorporated into the 45th Regiment, by the assistance of their influence and bounty, he will order the said corps to be distinguished from thence-forward by the title of the Nottinghamshire Regiment, as a mark of his readiness to comply with their wishes, and a memorial of the zeal and loyalty shown by the said county.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

C. JENKINSON.

The remains of the 45th, which had recently returned from America, and numbered less than 100 men, were at once ordered to Nottingham on recruiting service. In addition to the usual sum, a bounty of six guineas was paid to each recruit out of the subscription, and the 45th and Nottinghamshire have continued ever since closely connected. The eminent services the regiment subsequently performed, especially in the Peninsula and the East, have gained for it an imperishable renown.

September 20.—A public subscription was entered into by a party of gentlemen to ascertain the number of inhabitants, and from this day to the 25th every house in the town was visited for that purpose. The result was found to be as follows :—

	Houses.	Families.	Inhabitants.
In St. Mary's parish ..	2314	2584	12837
In St. Peter's	446	497	2452
In St. Nicholas's	431	475	2502
Total	3191	3556	17791

September 29.—Mr. Alderman William Huthwaite elected Mayor.

December.—The Nottinghamshire Militia broke up their encampment on South Sea Common, and went into winter quarters at Gosport.

This year was memorable for the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act (passed in 1641) in England, during six months.

The eccentric individual known as "Old General," whose local popularity extended over many years, was born about this period. His proper name is understood to have been Benjamin Mayo. His other appellations were derived from his having been

leader of the boys of the town.

"Ben," as he was at times familiarly called, died on Mickleton Monday. This day to

1779 the school boys of the town had generally been a holiday ; and though "General" was great on all occasions, he was especially so then, for, compared with him, the Mayor, the Sheriffs, and the municipal authorities, were subordinate officers in the estimation of the youthful tribes. Previous to the Mickletorn Jury commencing the annual survey of the liberties of the town, "General" was accustomed to trot away with several hundreds of boys at his heels in something like military order to secure the sacred and inviolable right of a holiday. Two or three urchins, with shining faces, would lead the way to their own schoolmaster's, who, in violation of "the orders of the day," was seated amidst the few children whose parents had refused to grant a holiday, and therefore dared not to play truant. Some "devoted Decius" in miniature would then venture in on the forlorn hope of procuring liberty for the rest. Down would drop pens, books, and pencils to the increasing cry at the doors of "Out, out, out !" The Commander-in-Chief would then arrive, and amidst the cheers of his enthusiastic and devoted troops would take up his position facing the door, and command the onset. The advance guard would assail the portal with redoubled blows of their pocket handkerchiefs and old rope ends knotted into tommies, and the main body of the belligerents would throw mud. Ere long, not unfrequently, a random stone would break some window ; a second and perhaps a third crash would succeed ; the master sallies out to seize the culprit, his sentinels are overpowered, the invaders rush in, the besieged are unmercifully belaboured till the capitulation is completed, and no sooner do they join the "liberating army," than a shout of triumph is raised, and the place is abandoned. The aides-de-camp would then report to the General what other fortresses held out, and the nearest of them would then be attacked in the same way. It often happened, however, that a parley was demanded, and the General shamelessly received a bribe to desist. Alas ! that one so devoted to the cause of liberty should have been so easily corrupted ; twopence would induce the Commander-in-Chief to withdraw with his faithful followers of fickle principle, and leave the anxious garrison to the uncontrolled power of its wily governor.

During the greater part of his career opposition to the General was rare, but in later years the schoolmasters better knew their strength. One individual successfully resisted a three hours' siege ; the premises for years bore marks of the mud with which they were pelted ; but ever afterwards the master was triumphant, though frequently at the expense of an oaken staff or an ash sapling broken in repulsing the invaders. After repeated assaults he deemed this "hold" impregnable, and desisted from his attacks.

So many of the disciples of learning being emancipated, or made prisoners, for the General could either liberate or capture, he was accustomed to march forward with his "surveying coun-

cil" escorted by his army to commence the perambulation of the town. If a projecting scraper endangered the shins of the burgesses, it was recorded, and the Mickletorn jury* passed on; but the juvenile admirers of summary and instantaneous justice would insist on the immediate removal of the obstruction. Perhaps the good old dame of the house liked not these regulations, and would take up a strong position in its defence, armed with a mop and bucket of water. After a momentous pause a hardy champion rushes forward to seize the offensive object and wrench it from its seat; he retires, overwhelmed and half drowned; hero after hero passes on and is defeated, till some modern Ajax grapples with the mop, and making a diversion in favour of the assailants the luckless scraper would be borne off in triumph.

By eleven or twelve o'clock, the General with his forces would be drawn up in front of the Castle Lodge, and have demanded admittance into the Castle-yard, a summons always evaded by the distribution of a quantity of cakes, buns, and gingerbread. On the General's word of command the precious sweets were thrown one by one over the gate, and the confusion of an universal scramble ensued. After the whole were distributed the popularity of the General rapidly waned; hundreds were reduced to scores, and scores to units; at one, he generally was

Deserted in his utmost need
By those his former bounty fed.

In memory, however, of his departed greatness, he never deigned to work for the rest of the day.

Before the advent of Mickletorn Monday, fifty times a day the important question would be put to the General, "When will be Mickletorn Monday?" Once he replied, "I don't know yet, the Mayor hasn't axed me what day'll suit me." On the following Saturday he answered, "The Mayor sent his respects to know if I'd let it be Middleton Monday next week; and I sent my respects and I'd come."

Ben Mayo was ever null, void, and of no effect, except in his character of "General." He was a harmless idiot, and during most of his life was an inmate of St. Peter's poor-house, in Broadmarsh. If erect, he would have been about the middle size, his stature not being more than four feet nine inches. He was very round-shouldered, and towards the close of his life stooped exceedingly. His eyes were dark grey, and rather lively; the lower part of his face was no way remarkable, but his forehead was high and singularly prominent in the middle. His head, which was thinly covered with hair cut very short, always projected before in his shuffling gait, which was rather a run than a walk.

* It was customary for the Mickletorn jury to perambulate the boundaries of the town the first Tuesday in September, and on the following Monday (hence commonly called "Mickletorn" Monday), the jury went through the streets to take notice of obstructions and nuisances.

- 1779 His vestments generally consisted of the "hodden grey" uniform of the pauper, but towards the end of his career, when in public, he wore a scarlet coat with military epauletts; his shirt collar was usually unbuttoned, and displayed his copper-coloured bosom. In former days, Ben's usual occupation was to sell the cheap commodities of the walking stationers; accounts of horrid murders, calendar of prisoners, last dying speeches and behaviours, prize fights, or lists of the running horses, a practice which he continued many years. Sometimes, when these papers came quickly in succession, his cross readings were laughable. He was once heard to bawl out, "A right and true calendar of all the running horses confined in his Majesty's 'gole,' owners' names, horses' names, and colours of the riders, tried, cast, 'quit, and condemned before my lord judge this 'sizes, and how they came in every heat of the three days, with the sentences of the prisoners."

Of the many anecdotes associated with recollections of "Old General," the subjoined are perhaps as noteworthy as any, and display the union of shrewdness and simplicity common to persons of his order and intelligence:—On a certain occasion, when public attention was directed towards the late Duke of York, one evening in twilight Ben began, "Here's the grand and noble speech as the Duke of York made yesterday." A person, who had heard nothing of such a speech, immediately purchased one, and on approaching a window found himself possessed of a blank piece of paper. "General," said he, "here's nothing on it." "No sir, the Duke of York said nowt."

His propensity for acting the General seems to have displayed itself in early life, for when but a young man he was in the habit of drilling a number of boys in the Market-place as soldiers. On one of these occasions, while actively engaged in regulating the awkward squad, he attracted the notice of a group of officers, just as one of the boys was more than usually intractable; "Well, Ben," said an officer, "what shall you make of that one, he's not fit for the ranks." "You'll see," he said, with more than his usual archness, at the same time telling the awkward youth to leave the ranks. Then regulating the others to his mind, he turned to the one who had been laid aside, and putting his hand on the boy's shoulder, exclaimed, "There, then, I'll made you an officer." The bystanders greeted this satire with much applause.

It was remarkable to notice the manner in which the General in his declining years would evade the oft repeated question, "How old are you, Ben?" In one instance, an individual knowing his aversion to declare his age, and also his love for a drop of Nottingham ale, thought he would see whether the aversion or love were strongest, and offered him half-a-pint of ale if he would say how old he was. He consented, but would drink the ale first. Afterwards, when pressed to fulfil his part

said, "Why, you know where they fate the battles abroad over yonder," at the same time pointing at random. "Yes," was the reply, "Well, there's a church there, and that church and me's just of a age." Then breaking into one of his droll chuckling laughs he would be delayed no longer, and started off.

During the preater part of his career, the subject of our narrative was invariably seen without any covering to his head. Rain, wind, or snow mattered little to him, and it was not until he had attained his 60th year that he began to wear a sort of military cap. His remarkably crooked legs were finished off with coarse stockings and rough quarter boots. His locomotive powers were good, considering the malformation of his legs. One leg being much bent, his body had an up-and-down motion, especially observable when he ran. Another peculiarity was, that when he had any fresh papers to sell, he would never stop to take money till quite out of breath, and arrived at the extremity of the town.

At the time of the dissolution of the old poor-law system, in 1836, poor Ben was about to be transferred from St. Peter's to the Union poor-house; but in consideration of his peculiarities, Mr. Hudson, under whose care he had been some years, kindly took him into his house, where he remained until that gentleman (since deceased) left the town to reside at Beeston. Ben then became an inmate of the Union house, where, through the decay of nature and the injury arising from an accidental fall down a flight of stairs, he died on the 12th of January, 1843, aged 64. His remains were deposited in the south-west corner of the Broad-marsh burial ground. A tablet to his memory is placed on the wall of the General Cemetery, near the Clarendon-street entrance.

While under Mr. Hudson's surveillance, the General was an attendant at St. Peter's Church, where his behaviour during service was uniformly decorous. He would on no account be seen about the streets on the Sabbath; for, being one of the public characters of the town, he considered it would be setting a bad example. In politics, for even Ben professed to have party predilections, he was a staunch old Blue. In times of political excitement he was sure to be seen with a bunch of blue ribbon tied to a button hole, and on more than one occasion appeared in public profusely dusted with powder blue from the crown of his head to the skirt of his coat. He was, however, always willing to assist "the Jacobin Corporation" as far as in him lay; and according to his own account he was particularly intimate with the Mayor for the time being, whom he allowed to be the first man in the town, himself being second. In the course of his career of notoriety, Ben was placed under the artists' hands times innumerable, and many portraits and casts of him are in existence.

1780.

1780) *January 28.*—Death of Mrs. Mercy Ryther, aged 82, at her house in Castle-gate. This lady was the daughter of the Rev. John Ryther, who in his younger days went as chaplain in several merchant vessels to the East and West Indies, to avoid the persecution which raged in the reign of Charles II. On the passing of the Toleration Act of William and Mary, he settled in Nottingham, and was the first minister at the Castle-gate meeting-house. At his death she was six years of age.

February 21.—Death of Mr. Thomas Peat, an eminent mathematician, at his residence in Greyfriars-gate, aged 72 years. Mr. Peat, notwithstanding his eminence, had to combine the pursuits of an astronomer, schoolmaster, and land surveyor with that of the mathematician. He was the oldest almanack writer in England, having compiled the Gentleman's Diary and Poor Robin (the most popular productions of the day) upwards of forty years, and his prognostications were generally both shrewd and striking.

He was not a native of the town, though he resided in it most of his life. His father occupied a farm in the township of Ashley Hay, near Wirksworth, and strove all he could to suppress his own son's growing desire for knowledge. The consequence was, that the youth fled to Nottingham at the age of fourteen, and prevailed upon an elder brother, then in business as a joiner and carpenter, to take him as an apprentice. But here Peat's situation was little altered for the better, for his brother opposed his studies almost as resolutely as the father, and withheld from him the means of procuring books. It happened, however, that being a regular attendant with his brother at the High-pavement chapel, Peat attracted the notice of Mr. Cornelius Wildbore, a master dyer, who, discovering the dormant powers of the youth, had sufficient generosity of heart to seek to aid their development. By holding repeated conversations with him he found that the bent of his mind was the pursuit of mathematics, and furnishing his *protege* with the necessary books, he thus laid the foundation of Peat's future renown. For conducting the almanacks above referred to our mathematician received £23 per annum, with complete sets of those publications, and the privilege of ordering any mathematical book at the expense of the Stationers' Company.

February 28.—A great public meeting of the gentry, clergy, and freeholders of the county was held at Mansfield, "to consider what steps are necessary to be taken in the present critical situation of affairs." Geo. Donston, Esq., presided, and J. G. Cooper, Esq., J. Acklom, Esq., Major Cartwright, L. D. Ffytche, Esq., and Mr. W. D. Rastall were the principal speakers. The Duke of Portland, Lord E. Bentinck, Lord Cavendish, and Sir —

were also upon the platform. The meeting adopted a petition to Parliament, in which they prayed for a reduction in the national expenditure and the abolition of all sinecure places and unmerited pensions. The request was grounded on the assumption that the war in which the nation was engaged had caused a very large addition to the national debt, a decline of trade, a rapid and distressful decrease in the value of landed property, and a grievous accumulation of taxes.

April 26.—Death of Mrs. Elizabeth Willoughby (the lady to whom reference was made in page 97), at her house in Broad-marsh. It is remarkable that she had just attained the same age as her sister (83) who died six years previously. The remains of this Roman Catholic lady were interred in the family vault at Cossall. A curious circumstance attended its opening. When the workmen entered, they were thrown into a state of consternation, and their superstitious fears were excited by a luminous appearance at the further end of the vault. A candle being introduced, the object of their fear disappeared; but on the candle being taken away, the apparently supernatural light became again very bright and conspicuous. Upon investigation it turned out to be nothing more than an human skull, covered with a greenish light-coloured phosphorescent mould of a downy nature, which turned black where it was touched.

May 26.—Mr. John Green, an opulent tanner, residing in Narrow-marsh, was found dead in bed, aged 71 years. This individual, in the early part of his life, was a private in the Oxford Blues, but growing too tall for service, being fully seven feet high, received an honourable discharge.

June 4.—An unfortunate collision attended the usual celebration of the King's birthday. The festivities of the day began with the ringing of the bells. At noon, three troops of the Horse Guards Blue fired volleys and huzzaed in the Market-place. A large bonfire made at the expense of the Corporation, blazed in the centre of the spacious area, besides several others in different parts of the town, at which lads were busily engaged in letting off guns, squibs, and crackers. At seven in the evening, those of the gentry, clergy, and officers of the army, and principal tradesmen, who had received invitations from the Mayor, met in the Exchange Room, and drank his Majesty's health in bumpers of wine. At nine, a grand exhibition of fireworks took place, the brilliant display of which gave entire satisfaction to about twelve thousand spectators; but unhappily at the close, the officers and some of the inhabitants entered into a dispute, so warmly, that from words they came to blows. The officers drawing their swords, and the populace arming themselves as well as they could, "many on both sides," states the record, "were terribly wounded, and several were put in bodily fear." On retiring to their
~~stars,~~ the officers were followed by the people, who broke 168
~~men~~ in front of the Blackmoor's Head inn, besides demolish-

1780 ing the window-frames and greatly injuring the inside shutters, though no further collision took place.

In consequence of this disturbance, an order was issued to the General of the district, from the King in Council, for "the military to act without waiting for directions from the civil magistrates, and to use force for dispersing any illegal or tumultuous assembly of the people." This was a fearful time; the resources of the nation were being fruitlessly expended in the most disastrous war in which England was ever engaged; America was still unsubdued, notwithstanding a most lavish sacrifice of men and means; the East India fleet, of the value of several millions sterling, with a thousand troops on board, had been captured by the combined fleets of France and Spain; the Northern powers had entered into an armed neutrality against us; Britannia seemed to have lost for a time the supremacy of the sea; and at home, the "Lord George Gordon riots," had just filled London with alarm, and the scaffold with victims. We can scarcely wonder that the Ministry, under the force of these circumstances, should have resorted to extreme measures.

June.—The Nottinghamshire Militia encamped on Ranmoor Common, near Dorking, in Surrey.

June 23.—News of Sir Henry Clinton's capture of Charlestown reached Nottingham, and was received with great joy. The bells rang the whole of the day, and at night several houses were brilliantly illuminated, many bonfires were made, and two heavy pieces of cannon were discharged in the Market-place, so late as half-past eleven; one of these, being overcharged, burst into pieces, fortunately without loss of life. The congregation of people was immense.

July 11.—Died at Cambridge, aged 74 years, the Rev. Hugh Thomas, D.D., Master of Christ's College, Dean of Ely, Chancellor of York, Archdeacon of Nottingham, Treasurer of St. David's, Prebendary of York, Lincoln, Ripon, and Southwell, and possessing at the same time two livings in Yorkshire, and a sinecure in Wales. Dr. Thomas was Archdeacon of Nottingham thirty-two years, and was succeeded therein by Sir Richard Kaye, Bart.

September 8.—A Sheriff's court opened by proclamation at the Exchange Hall, to elect two burgesses to represent the town, owing to a dissolution of Parliament. Robert Smith, Esq. (Whig), Daniel Parker Coke, Esq.* (Tory), and Major John Cartwright (Radical), were placed in nomination. The show of hands was in favour of the two former, and a poll was demanded, which began immediately, and closed at eleven the next morning

* Mr. D. P. Coke, who for many years subsequently was closely connected with Nottingham, was educated at Oxford, where he took the degree of M.A. in 1772, having been a gentleman commoner of Queen's College. He then entered himself on the roll at Lincoln's Inn, and was called to the bar, and had at one time considerable practice on the Midland Circuit. He did not retire from the representation of Nottingham till 1825, when many years he was an officer in the Derbyshire Militia, and was agent for Derby, his family place, during part of the year. He died at his house at that town, on the 9th of December, 1825, at the advanced age of 53.

by the Major resigning. The final state of the poll was thus:— 1780

Mr. Smith	...	...	...	569
Mr. Coke	...	...	...	341
Major Cartwright	...	...	...	149

Mr. Smith had 97 plumpers or only votes, Mr. Coke 8, and the Major 10. The chairing took place at the close of the contest. The chairs were elegantly decorated, and the candidates, after paying their compliments to the brilliant show of ladies who greeted them on their route, alighted at their respective inns—Mr. Smith at the Feathers, and Mr. Coke at the White Lion.*

It is remarkable that, at the above election, Mr. Coke did not intend to be placed in nomination himself, but came to support another person. Sir Edward Every, Bart., was originally brought forward by the Blue party. The *Journal* states, that "at the nomination, which took place in the Market-place, near the Malt Cross, Sir Edward was proposed, but Mr. Coke was loudly called for by the electors. Expresses, it is said, were continually going betwixt here and Derby on this day; one horse was killed, occasioned by two post-chaises meeting in the lane near Sandiacre, in one of which was Mr. Coke on his way to Nottingham, where he arrived about eleven o'clock in the evening, and was drawn to the White Lion inn by a party of young men, who took his horses from his carriage on the Sand-hills, near this town. When he alighted, he assured the burgesses that he had not come as a candidate, but to assist Sir Edward Every in his canvass to the utmost of his power. Mr. Coke, however, was at length prevailed to accept the offer, and he was nominated a candidate at the Malt Cross the next morning about nine o'clock." Mr. Coke's long connection with Nottingham may thus be traced almost to an accident.

September 9.—The county election. A large body of the freeholders met the candidates at the Race-stand, on the Forest, and forming in procession marched to the County Hall, where they arrived about eleven o'clock. Lord Edward Bentinck was nominated by F. Montagu, Esq., of Papplewick, and C. Medows, Esq., was placed in nomination by J. Sherwin, Esq., of Nottingham. They were then declared duly elected. About twelve o'clock, Sir Francis Molyneux, Knight, who attended on the occasion for Lord Edward Bentinck, detained by illness in London, and Mr. Medows, were chaired round the town in the customary manner.

September 29.—Alderman John Smellie elected Mayor.

October 10.—Election of burgesses who had passed the Shrievalty to fill up two vacancies in the Council Chamber, occasioned by the death of Jonathan Trueman, Esq.,† of Castle-

* The White Lion hotel, long the head quarters of the Tory party in Nottingham, and subsequently of the Whigs, was established in the year 1684.

† Mr. Trueman was a fine specimen of "an old English gentleman." He was many years Mayor of Nottingham, and was succeeded by Thomas Parkyns, Bart., and John Plumtre and Pendock Neale, Esq., who were discharged with strict honour and integrity. He was one of the Corporation of this town, having served the office of Sheriff in 1723, at the time of his decease.

1780 gate, and the elevation of Mr. Smellie. The polling was very spirited; public-houses were opened, money freely spent, and the out-districts ransacked for votes. It continued three days, and closed as follows:—

Mr. Joseph Oldknow, grocer	...	...	849
Mr. Samuel Eaton, hosier	...	...	801
Mr. Henry Green, hosier	...	...	770
Mr. George Burbage, printer	...	...	527

November.—One division of the Nottinghamshire Militia went into winter quarters at Basingstoke, in Hampshire, and the other at Farnham and Bagshot, in Surrey.

1781.

1781 *January* 17.—Death of Mrs. Susannah Gregory, at her house on Short-hill, a maiden lady, aged 77 years. She was the daughter of George Gregory, Esq., who represented this town in Parliament from 1714 to 1727, and died in 1746. She was a lady of great piety, remarkable vivacity, and diffusive liberality, and bequeathed her fortune, which was very extensive, to her nephews, Captain Gregory and the Rev. Mr. Gregory, rector of Langar. Her remains were interred at Denton, near Grantham.

January 18.—Thomas Willoughby, Baron Middleton, of Wollaton Hall, died at his seat at Middleton, near Tamworth, aged 53 years. His Lordship was born in the town of Nottingham, at the house of W. Partridge, Gent., Low-pavement, and dying without issue, was succeeded by Henry Willoughby, Esq., of Birdsall.

February 12.—The ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the General Hospital, near this town, was observed to-day. A large number of the gentry of the county assembled at the Shire Hall, and forming in order of procession, proceeded to the Town Hall, where they were joined by the Mayor and Corporation, in full costume, and afterwards marched as follows:—

Two Beadles.
Two Pounders.
Standards and colours.
Music.
The Architect.
Chaplain.
Auditors and Treasurers.
The Secretary.
The two Macebearers.
The two Sheriffs.
The Chief Macebearer.
The Mayor.

The Corporation, two and two.

Benefactors, Annual Subscribers, and Medical Men.

On their arrival at Derry-mount,* the site of the Hospital.

* As the workmen were clearing away the subsoil from Derry-mount, several human bones were found, some of which were in great perfection. A dagger was discovered. It was imagined had lain there, along with the bodies, since the days of old. Some antiquarians are of opinion that they fell in the barons' wars. It is, however, pretty certain they were slain in battle, & laid promiscuously together, and not in any regular order of rank.

the Mayor addressed the spectators, and then laid the first stone, with the customary formalities, at the south-east abutment, Silver coins, and a plate with the subjoined inscription, were deposited underneath it :—

General Hospital, near Nottingham.
Open to the Sick and Lame Poor
Of any County.
On the 12th day of February, 1781,
John Smellie, Esq.,
Mayor of Nottingham,
Laid the First Stone of this Building.
The Corporation
Gave the Ground for the said Hospital.
John Simpson, Architect.

The concourse of people was very great. A public dinner, at Thurland Hall, wound up the proceedings of the day.

The chief benefactors were, the Duke of Newcastle, who gave £300 and half the land, the Corporation, who gave the other half, and Richard Arkwright, Esq., who gave £200, Mrs. E. Bainbridge £1000, the Archbishop of York £100, Lord E. Bentinck £100, P. Parry, Esq., £105, Lord C. Cavendish £100, W. Chaworth, Esq., £100, Dr. Cryne £100, the Duke of Devonshire £100, G. Gregory, Esq., £100, Mrs. Hayford £100, a Friend £400, Mrs. Lovet £100, J. Morris, Esq., £300, Earl Manvers £100, Lord Middleton £200, Lord Newark £100, the Duke of Portland £300, Sir G. Saville £100, Mrs. Sherbrooke £100, A. Smith, Esq., £100, J. Thompson, Esq., £105, and the Rev. Mr. Williams £150.

March 14.—Arrival of the news of Admiral Rodney's success upon the Dutch West India islands. Public festivities and the ringing and shooting of the bells in the daytime, and bonfires and a partial illumination of the town at night, evinced the enthusiasm with which the news was greeted. The Milton's Head inn was apparently one blaze of light. The Milton's Head was a new erection not yet opened. It was built by Mr. Wm. Stretton, builder and Surveyor, and in the following May was opened by him, its first landlord, for the reception of the public.

March 28.—Execution of George Brown *alias* Bounds and Adam Bagshaw. These companions in iniquity and death suffered the extreme penalty of the law for breaking into the house of John Moss, at a lone place near Kirkby Woodhouse. They forced Mr. Moss and the servant maid, the only inhabitants of the house, into the cellar, and locked them in while they committed their depredations, and made themselves merry with the best the place afforded. Bagshaw was a young man who had fallen into bad company, and his case excited much commiseration. Brown, on the contrary, was an old offender, and the circumstance of his having lost a thumb, upon the stump of which he wore a bit of leather, in his detection.

Journal of March 31st gives the following record of their
The procession began to move from the County Gaol

1781 about half-past eleven o'clock, and went on in a slow and solemn manner to the place of execution, the singers of the different parishes singing penitential psalms all the way. The unhappy criminals were carried in a cart, accompanied by three Dissenting preachers, and surrounded by the Sheriff's javelin men, a circumstance which has not happened since the year 1759. They arrived at the fatal tree a little after twelve, where the Rev. Chaplain attended to assist them in their devotions; which being ended, one of the above preachers stood up in the cart, prayed fervently with the culprits, and delivered an exhortation to the multitude. An hymn of considerable length suitable to the occasion, was then sung; which being finished, the cart was drawn under the gallows, into which the executioner ascended to put in force the sentence inflicted by the law upon these two unfortunate men. Before the cart drew away they shook each other by the hand, and Bagshaw was heard to say that it was bad company which brought him to that untimely end. Brown called to the Lord Jesus to receive his soul. Caps being put over their faces, their poseys were dropt, and the cart drawing away, they were both launched into a boundless eternity, amongst as great a concourse of spectators as we ever remember to have seen on such an occasion. Brown seemed to die very easy, but Bagshaw struggled hard. After hanging about half an hour, their bodies were cut down, and being conveyed to the County Hall, were put into coffins, and interred in one grave the same afternoon in St. Mary's church-yard. Brown was born in the year 1715, at Whittington Heath, near Chesterfield, Derbyshire, was about five feet ten inches high, and had been guilty of many capital offences. Bagshaw was a young man, only in his 23rd year, born at Sheffield, and put apprentice to a spring knife maker. Bagshaw was visited in prison by his father, who afterwards attended the execution, and, if report says true, absolutely saw the final departure of his son!"

April 24.—Upon receiving tidings of the surrender of the Dutch settlements of Demerara and Issequibo to the British forces under Rodney and Vaughan, the bells were rung twelve hours, and at night numerous bonfires were made. Conspicuous amongst the expedients to gratify popular enthusiasm, a man, whom the populace called "Lord Rodney," was chaired through the principal streets. In suitable slits of his hat lighted candles were placed, besides one in each hand, and the representative of heroism was altogether most grotesquely attired.

September.—Mr. John Carruthers, the Mayor-elect, and Mr. John Fellows, jun., and Mr. J. Hancock, Sheriffs-elect, caused three large pumps to be erected in different parts of the town, in lieu of the entertainment usually given on Michaelmas day.

September 11.—An awful amount of mortality in one family occurred this day. Jonathan Dodson, Gent., Coroner, of Narrow-marah, aged 78 years (many years a baker of considerable busi-

ness, who had retired from trade), Mrs. Ann Dodson, and Jonathan Dodson, a grandson, all died between sunrise and sunset. Their remains were placed in a vault in the Barker-gate burial-ground, in the presence of a very large concourse of people. 1781

September 26.—Mr. George Dodson, baker, Narrow-marsh, elected Coroner in the place of his deceased father.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman John Carruthers entered upon the Mayoralty.*

November 8.—Between the hours of four and five this morning a fire broke out at the cotton mill, in Hockley, belonging to Messrs. Arkwright, Need, and Strutt. Such was its vehemence, that in about two hours the spacious building was reduced to a mere shell. The contemporary *Journal* states, "Thursday morning, between four and five o'clock, a dreadful fire broke out in the cotton mill, at Hockley, which raged with such fury as in two hours to destroy all but the outside walls. All the machines, wheels, spindles, &c., employed for spinning and winding cotton, were entirely consumed, and not a single article contained therein (the books excepted) could possibly be saved, notwithstanding the exertions of many inhabitants, who tried their utmost to preserve it and adjacent houses from inevitable destruction. The morning being remarkably serene, the flames did not spread with such rapidity as might be imagined, and though several habitations stood near the mill, not one received any material injury, which was chiefly owing to the engines being very judiciously managed and in general in excellent order. The clock belonging to the mill struck four for the last time, previous to which the most awful scene was presented we ever remember viewing; the fire being then at its height, the lead melted and showered down, glass flew in all directions, the flames rushed from every window, and out at the chimney tops; within were large pieces of timber cracking and falling even to the ground. To this dreadful event we have to add, that about the same time, the working people engaged at the mill were coming from different parts of the town to earn their daily bread. Such pictures of distress naturally excited pity in the breast of every spectator, very few of them having temporary resources to fly to, but on the other hand are reduced to penury and want. From what cause the fire originated we are not able to tell. A sentinel keeps guard there night and day. The fire continued burning when this paper went to press (Saturday)." The mill itself was the property of Mr. John Leaver.

November.—The Nottinghamshire Militia broke up their encampment near Gosport, and went into winter quarters at Basingstoke, Andover, and neighbouring places.

November.—The news from America created great sensation in

and in the house on the Long-row, at the east of Rigley's-yard

- 1781 Nottingham. Lord Cornwallis, after a gallant defence, on the 19th of the previous month had surrendered York Town and the whole of the British army to Washington, the American general, and the British vessels in the harbour to the French admiral, De Grasse. This disastrous event induced the Ministry to abandon the idea of reconquering the United States. The news was variously received. Some of our local politicians rejoiced in it, regarding the issue as a notable triumph of liberty; others professed to see in it the absolute ruin of their country. The consequence was frequent fights and disturbances.

December 1.—The state of society at this period, in one of its most repulsive developments, provoked the following comment in the local paper:—"Last Friday night, seven common prostitutes, plying in different parts of the town, were apprehended by some constables, and lodged in the House of Correction. It is really shocking to see what numbers of abandoned girls infest every corner of this populous town. Such nuisances hurt the delicacy of many respectable ladies, who have frequently occasion to pass those places where these miserable wretches generally assemble. 'Tis a pity some eligible plan is not adopted whereby they might know how irksome it was to labour involuntarily during their confinement, when at liberty (by means of honest industry) they might enjoy the blessings of this life in abundance."

1782.

- 1782 *January 26.*—Eighty Dutch prisoners of war marched into the town on their way to the central depôt, escorted by a party of Light Dragoons. The streets through which they passed were excessively crowded with people who were curious to see the unfortunate captives. They were conducted round the Market-place, and then admitted into the Exchange Room, which had been fitted up with bedding and other conveniences for their temporary sojourn. It being market day, several of the Dutchmen were astonished to observe so large a number of men in the streets capable of bearing arms, and one of them, whose words were interpreted, amongst other questions asked with great simplicity, "if London was as large as Nottingham?" On Sunday, great numbers more went to stare at them, many of whom gave them money, and others exchanged English for Dutch pieces. Early the next morning, they left the town by the Derby-road, escorted by a number of Dragoon Guards on horseback, and a party of the Leicestershire Militia on foot.

February 28.—Election of a Senior Councilman in the place of Joseph Stubbins, Gent., deceased. After two days' poll the numbers stood as follows:—Mr. Henry Green, 631; Mr. George Burbage, 106: majority for Mr. Green, 525. Several hundred votes were purchased at two shillings each.

March 9.—The assizes commenced before Mr. Justice Buller. 1789

Sarah Harwood was arraigned on an indictment for burglary and felony, in breaking and entering into a chamber in the house of her master, Mr. Wm. Jackson, of the parish of Greasley, and stealing out of a club box between £16 and £17, the property of a friendly society meeting at the said house. After the witnesses had been examined, the jury acquitted her of the charge of burglary, but found her guilty of the felony.

Cooper Hall (the man referred to at page 85), was also convicted of stealing a bill of exchange for £120, on the 18th of the previous November, from the mail cart between Tuxford and Newark. The two unhappy prisoners afterwards received sentence of death in very impressive terms, but before his lordship left the town he was pleased to grant a respite to Sarah Harwood, and her sentence was commuted to two years imprisonment. Hall was executed on Wednesday, March 27th. His suffering at the fatal spot was greatly aggravated by the circumstance of his hanging upon the rope as the cart was moving from under him, which caused the knot to slip to the back of his neck. He died in the 31st year of his age.

March.—Lord North having resigned, after being at the helm of affairs twelve years, was succeeded by the Marquis of Rockingham.

May 10.—A letter was received by the Mayor from the Earl of Shelburne, Secretary of State, authorising the formation of an association of young men in this town for military training, "that they might be ready to defend their country in case of any emergency." The officers were to be appointed by Government, the sergeants selected from the regulars, and arms and ammunition to be sent from the Tower.

May 20.—Arrival of the *Gazette* in Nottingham with intelligence of the signal defeat of the French fleet, and the capture of its commander, the Count de Grasse, by our naval force in the West Indies, under Sir George Rodney. All the customary displays of popular delight were indulged in, and at night there was a very brilliant and general illumination.

June.—A boy about thirteen years of age, named Thomas Hudson, fell from a projection of the Castle rock into one of the gardens below without receiving any material injury, though he fell at least a hundred feet. He had been gathering gilliflowers, which used to grow there plentifully without cultivation.

July 6.—Another large body of Dutch prisoners marched into the town, escorted by a party of Colonel Harcourt's Light Dragoons, and were placed in the Exchange Hall under a strong guard. They stayed here two days, and were visited by great numbers, and were permitted to walk about the town, properly
 "led to gratify their curiosity. In the second night eleven
 "led to make their escape, by opening a window

1782 and descending to the shambles. Two of them were retaken in a close near the Trent-bridge, three at Risley, and four at Northampton.

August.—The Nottinghamshire Militia encamped on Brampton Common, near Chatham, doing duty also over the batteries and garrison at the latter place.

September 28.—The General Hospital opened for the admission of patients. The morning was ushered in by the ringing of bells. The Mayor and Corporation with friends of the charity went in procession from the Hospital to Divine service at St. Mary's church, and the evening was distinguished by a public dinner at Thurland Hall, and a concert and ball at the Assembly Room. The stewards of the day were the Right Hon. Henry Lord Middleton, the Hon. Mr. Willoughby (his son), the Hon. Henry Sedley, and John Musters, Esq. The Corporation, in consideration of their noble and generous support of the charity, in the afternoon presented each of them personally with the freedom of the town.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman John Fellows entered upon the Mayoralty.

October 28.—A general meeting of the county, called by John Litchfield, Esq., High Sheriff, was held at the Moot Hall, in Mansfield, at which a petition was adopted to the House of Commons, praying for an extension of the suffrage and a shortening of the duration of Parliaments. The Right Hon. Lord George Sutton presided, and the petition was supported by speeches from John Gilbert Cooper, Esq., Lancelot Rolleston, Esq., Viscount Galway, Mr. Dickenson Rastall, Mr. Heywood, Sir Geo. Saville, Mr. Walker, and the Earl of Surrey. The petition was agreed to unanimously.

November 30.—Acknowledgment of American independence.

December.—The Nottinghamshire Militia returned to the county after an absence of about four years. They were quartered in divisions at Newark, Tuxford, and Retford.

1783.

1783 *January 7.*—Died at Kelham, near Newark, aged 59 years, the Right Hon. George Sutton, commonly called Lord George Sutton, Colonel of the Nottinghamshire Militia, and M.P. for Newark. Lord George Sutton was third son of the Duke of Rutland, by Bridget, daughter and heir of Robert Sutton, Lord Lexington. He was succeeded by his eldest son George Sutton, Esq., M.P. for Grantham, and a Captain in the Militia.

February 28.—Induction of the Rev. Jeremiah Bigsby, A.M., into the rectory of St. Peter's, vacant by the decease of the Rev. Samuel Martin, A.M.

March 2.—The first division of the Militia arrived in Nottingham from Newark. 1788

March 10.—The Hon. Mr. Willoughby, son of Lord Middleton, appointed Colonel of the Militia in the place of the late Lord George Sutton. The regiment was almost immediately afterwards disembodied, having been on active service about five years.

March 27.—A public meeting was held in the Guildhall, convened by the Mayor, "for the purpose of taking into consideration and adopting a plan for purchasing provisions, and retailing them to the poor at a lower price." It was agreed that a subscription be opened, and among those who contributed were the following:—the Corporation, £50; Robert Smith, Esq., £105; S. Smith, Esq., £10; Mr. Edward Williams, £10; Mr. W. G. Williams, £10; Mr. John Wright, £10; Mr. Thomas Wright, £10; C. Launder, Esq., £10; Messrs. William Rawson and Sons, £10; Mr. William Elliott, £10; Abel Smith, Esq., £21; Lord Middleton, £50; D. P. Coke, Esq., £50; making, with numerous smaller subscriptions, a total of nearly £700. Tickets for bread and flour at greatly reduced rates were freely distributed, and the necessities of thousands in suffering circumstances seasonably relieved. The tickets bore this inscription, "The bearer hereof is entitled to twelvepennyworth of bread or flour for eightpence every week." These tickets were taken to any baker in the town, and the tradesman, by attending at the Guildhall, at a specified time, received fourpence for each of them.*

April 2.—The coalition Ministry announced, of which the Duke of Portland was First Lord of the Treasury, and Lord North and Mr. Fox joint Secretaries of State.

April 4.—The newly-erected chapel in Hockley was opened for Divine service by the Rev. John Wesley, A.M., and the Rev. Dr. Coke. In the morning, the latter clergyman read the service of the day from the Book of Common Prayer, and Mr. Wesley preached from the Epistle of the day, *Hebrews ix. 11, 12*. Both of them were in the usual vestments of clergymen, and at the close of the service administered the sacrament. At five o'clock, Dr. Coke read the evening service, and Mr. Wesley preached from *Isaiah iv. 6, 7*. The place was excessively crowded on both occasions.

April 17.—The Trent Navigation Bill received the Royal assent.

June 26.—Death of John Smellie, Gent., Alderman, aged 62 years, at his house on the High-pavement. His remains were interred in the Castle-gate burial-ground.

June 26.—A number of riotous persons assembled near the lower end of York-street, the locality then known as "the New Buildings," and proceeded to walk through the principal streets of the town, with an effigy mounted on an ass of a hosier who reduced the price for making long-heeled hose twopence

* The market price of wheat was 6s. per quarter.

1788 per pair. A large mob was quickly attracted, and going in a body to the hosier's residence, the effigy was affixed on the door-knocker and pelted with stones and brickbats. About nine o'clock, the Mayor, attended by a body of constables, read the Riot Act, but the mob instead of dispersing, became more violent than before, and demolished the windows and shutters. At this juncture a company of the Horse Guards Blue came up, and though several persons were fired at and dangerously wounded, it was not until two in the morning that the mob retired from the neighbourhood.

The next day (Wednesday) all was quiet till evening, when the riotous disposition broke out afresh. The disaffected assembled in the fields in great numbers, and soon after nine o'clock began to throng the streets. The Mayor's house was attacked, and in defending it a gun was fired, and one man fatally wounded. The mob, however, did not disperse until compelled at the point of the sword. Breaking into detachments, the rioters went different ways, and broke the windows of many obnoxious hosiers.

On Thursday the Mayor held a special sessions at the Guild-hall, when upwards of three hundred gentlemen came forward voluntarily, and were sworn in as constables. They were provided with staves, and in the evening patrolled the town, previous to which the Riot Act was publicly read in the Market-place. The soldiers were also on duty in the streets, and the rioters were so overawed that no further disturbance took place.

August 4.—Kitty Hudson, whose case excited a most extraordinary amount of interest in medical circles, admitted into the General Hospital, where she was the ninth patient. Kitty was born at Arnold, in 1765, and when six years of age, was left with her grandfather, Mr. White, the sexton of St. Mary's, Nottingham, where a young woman resided in the capacity of servant, who used to say to her, "Kitty, if you'll get me a mouthful of pins by such or such a time, I'll give you a stick of tuffey." Kitty's employment was sweeping the pews and aisles of the church, and she was always very careful in picking up pins and needles, which she regularly stored in her mouth, for she received alike for both. She followed this practice till, as she said herself, she could neither eat, drink, nor sleep, without pins or needles in her mouth, having got out of bed many times to supply herself with them, that she might induce sleep; and to such an extent did she carry this strange practice, ere its destructive tendency was discovered by her friends, that her double teeth had granulated away almost to the gums. At length she began to perceive a constant numbness in her limbs, and a great inability to sleep, which after various medical applications, was the cause of her being removed to the Hospital.

At the time of her admittance she was labouring under an inflammatory affection of the right arm. On inspection two needles were discovered in the skin a little above the wrist, and

they were readily extracted by pushing the points through and laying hold of them with a pair of forceps. Upon a minute examination, more needles were felt higher up the arm, and these too were extracted. Between the time of her admission and June 12, 1785, when she was finally dismissed cured, with the exception of two or three short intermissions, in which she went home as relieved or cured, she underwent a most astonishing series of operations. Great numbers of pins, needles, and pieces of carious bone were extracted from her feet, legs, arms, and other parts of her body, and both her breasts were removed with the knife. In Blackner's history of the town, pp. 172 to 179, the whole circumstances of the case are detailed as recorded in the minutes of the institution, and published by Dr. Moises, in the Medical and Physical Journal of that day. An idea of the suffering the poor woman sustained may be gathered from the following extracts:—

October 11, 1783.—A very large darning needle was this day extracted from her right breast, seemingly buried within a part of the gland; thinks she feels another needle very deep seated under the gland in the middle of the breast; complained of great pain in the breast after the removal of the needle, which in about an hour afterwards became so excessive as to throw her into convulsions.

November 1.—The convulsions have continued at periods till now; the needle still appearing to lie very deep within the breast; and about three days ago her jaws became locked; very weak and low; pulse small and weak; made an incision quite through the breast, and extracted a large needle which adhered to the tendinous fascia covering the pectoral muscle; afterwards brought the lips of the wound together by adhesive plaisters.

February 3, 1784.—Passed a pin yesterday by urine, which was not coated or particularly corroded; and this day, with the same excretion, passed a needle.

5th.—Passed another needle yesterday by urine; is faint and low.

12th.—Brought up a needle yesterday by vomiting.

14th.—Had a needle extracted from her breast.

26th.—Two days ago the whole of the breast began to be inflamed, and the inflammation continues.

March 8.—Still complains of pain deep seated in her breast, which prevents her resting.

19th.—The needle now in her breast to be extracted.

22nd.—It passed into the thorax during the operation; part of the gland, which was scirrhus, was removed.

June 26th.—For several days has complained of great pain in her breast, and describes it to be as if several pins were lodged in the mamma and pectoral muscle, and lying between the two ribs.

August 30.—The right mamma was extirpated this day, in the middle of which a needle was found closed impacted; an hemorrhage taking place in the evening the dressings were removed, and a small artery was taken up; a pin was found in the dressings.

September 4.—Complained of pain; the dressings were partially removed, and another pin was sticking to them; four other pins were also discovered in the wound, which were removed without difficulty. One of the pins having lost the head, her perception was so accurate as to distinguish it before removing the dressings.

9th.—On removing the dressings two pins were found adhering to them.

11th.—Two more pins were found lodging on the dressings this day, together with a plum-stone which she had swallowed two days ago.

The minutes (of which the above is a specimen, though by no means the most extraordinary part of the case) are voluminous, and will ever excite deep interest in the minds of the medical profession.

December 18.—Dismissal of Ministers, succeeded by the Pitt Administration.

1784 *February 1.*—Ann Castledine, aged 28 years, was committed to the County Gaol, charged upon the Coroner's inquisition, on the 30th ultimo, with the wilful murder of a new-born female illegitimate child, of which she had been delivered, at Sutton-cum-Lound, near Retford. This young woman suffocated the child by burying it alive immediately after its birth; but fearing a discovery, removed the body, and sewed it up in a chaff bed, on which she slept for some nights previous to her apprehension. Nor was this the first time she had been placed in custody on a similar charge. She had been tried at the Lent Assizes two years previously for child murder, but escaped the retribution that was now to overtake her, owing to one of the witnesses against her delivering different testimony to that he gave before *the jury*.

Jury, and to the overseer of Sutton having extorted a confession from her under a promise of mercy. 1784

At the assizes in March, she and eight other prisoners received sentence of death from the lips of Mr. Baron Eyre. Their names and offences were as follows:—Robert Rushton, for the murder of his daughter; Robert Brown and Matthew White, for robbing Wm. Lineker, of Plumpton, on the highway at Edwalton, of a purse containing 8s. 8d.; Thomas Henfrey and William Ryder, for highway robbery; John Briggs, for a burglary in the house of William Doyes, at Whatton, near Bingham; Thomas Blackner, for a burglary in the house of William Rhodes, at Hucknall Torkard; and Nathaniel Waters, for stealing twenty yards of linen from the shop of Mr. C. Ledbeater, of Mansfield, grocer. Before the Judge left the town five of them were reprieved.

Robert Rushton and Ann Castledine were executed on Wednesday, March 17th. They received the sacrament at nine in the morning, and met their fate with the utmost composure. Rushton was 45 years of age, and considering that the crime for which he suffered was beating his own daughter to death, appeared by no means of a ferocious disposition. The procession began to move from the Goal at eleven o'clock and the criminals were conveyed in a cart, attended all the way by vast numbers of spectators. At Gallows-hill more than an hour was spent in devotional exercises. After hanging the usual time their bodies were removed to the County Hall, in order to be publicly exposed and dissected. After the bodies had been submitted to the surgeons, and then exposed to public curiosity for two days extended on boards in the open street in front of the Hall, (an exhibition attended by great demoralisation and disgusting language,) the remains of the young woman were given to Mr. Fox, surgeon, Derby. While they lay in a barn near his residence a strange gentleman came on horseback to view them. He took up the heart, kissed it, squeezed a drop of blood from it upon his handkerchief, and rode away. This gentleman was doubtless the seducer, who had come many miles to take a last look at the once beautiful object of his cruelty and lust. Rushton was a native of Flintham, and of very indifferent character.

The other malefactors were hung on the 31st, a fortnight subsequently. Thomas Henfrey came from Stathern, and Wm. Ryder from Stonesley, near Waltham. Their crime was as follows:—On the 23rd of the previous January, about six in the morning, they met Mr. Richard Caunt, of Plungar, as he was coming to Nottingham fair, on Peascroft-hill, between Bingham and Ratcliffe, and with horrid imprecations demanded his money. He gave up to them five guineas in gold, three-and-sixpence in silver, and threepence in copper. They were apprehended the following evening at a public-house in Stathern, and being identified by Mr. ^{le} in custody at Leicester, were removed to Nottingham.

1784

They were placed in a cart drawn up to the prison door at eleven o'clock, and as they emerged from the gloom of their cell into the broad light of the sun that had risen upon them for the last time, a solemn feeling of awe, we are told, shot through the minds of the spectators. The men were attired in their shrouds, and stalked up to the cart with undismayed step. On their friends accosting them, they shook several by the hand, and just before the vehicle drew on, Henfrey said with an audible voice, "Never mind, lads." On the road they frequently conversed with each other, and appeared more concerned for the friends they were leaving behind than for themselves. When at the gallows, and on the point of being turned off, they kicked off their shoes, doubtless under the idea that they would not verify the old proverb, "rogues generally die with their shoes on." Henfrey then with a smile asked Ryder if he would make a spring, and on being answered in the affirmative, he immediately jumped out of the cart, saying, "then come along," and expired almost instantly; but Ryder had not courage to follow his example, and waited till the cart was drawn from under him: he lingered some minutes in great agony. When Henfrey's fall was suddenly stopped by the rope his neck gave a very loud crack, the noise of which was heard by many of the spectators; and the great weight of his body stretched the rope in such a surprising manner that his feet nearly touched the ground.

On the same day, and about the same hour that the two young men above mentioned were hung, another public spectacle was witnessed in the town of a very different nature; this was the chairing of Messrs. Smith and Coke, on their re-election without opposition, Parliament having been dissolved. The chairs were elegantly decorated, the one with white and the other with blue silk, and the members alighted at the Blackmoor's Head and White Lion inns. In the afternoon Mr. Smith's supporters dined together at Thurland Hall, and Mr. Coke's at the White Lion inn.

April 21.—Re-election of the county members. F. Montagu, Esq., of Papplewick, proposed Lord Edward Bentinck, and Wharton Amcotts, Esq., member for Retford, introduced O. Medows, Esq. When duly elected, the two honourable gentlemen proceeded to the Grand Jury Room, and having seated themselves in their respective chairs, were carried in a triumphal procession, preceded by flags and music, down the High-pavement, through Bridlesmith-gate, round the Market-place, to the White Lion and Blackmoor's Head inns, attended by an immense concourse of people. The chair in which Lord Bentinck sat was remarkably elegant; it was covered with white silk and ingenious devices of orange coloured ribbon. Mr. Medows's chair was covered with blue silk, and formed a pleasing contrast. When the members had alighted, in accordance with ancient custom, the chairs were broken up by the populace, and several persons were severely injured in scrambling for pieces to bear away as trophies.

July 3.—Died at her house in Bridlesmith-gate, aged 77 years, 1784
 Mrs. Tempest, relict of John Tempest, Esq., son of Sir George Tempest, Bart., of Tonge, in the county of York. On the 8th, her remains were interred in St. Peter's church. The pall bearers were Lady Santry, Mrs. Cocks, Mrs. Bigsby, Mrs. Musters, Mrs. Boote, and Mrs. Frost.

July 31.—A melancholy accident took place on the Trent, near this town. The ferry boat at Wilford being out of repair, a small wherry was used for the accommodation of passengers coming to market. Many persons had been conducted safely over till near ten o'clock, when eleven men and women got into the boat at once. The wind at the time was blowing quite a gale, and the river was unusually high and rapid. Midway between the banks, the wherry became unmanageable, and was forced with such violence against the ferry chain as to instantly upset. Six of the imprudent people were drowned and the others saved their lives with great difficulty. The names of those lost were, Samuel Dutton (the ferryman), Ann Jackson, and Ruth Street, of Wilford; and Mary Butler, William Wright, and Elizabeth Spencer, of Clifton. Several days after, four of the bodies were found, much disfigured, in the liberties of Sneinton and Colwick, and one near the Trent-bridge. The sixth had descended the river as low as Ratcliffe.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Howitt elected Mayor.

October 17.—A public meeting, convened by the Mayor in compliance with a requisition, was held at the Town Hall, to consider in what manner a Sunday school for the children of the poor might be established. A committee was appointed to make arrangements and solicit subscriptions. The authors of this movement, to whose exertions may fairly be attributed the formation of the first Sabbath school on a respectable scale in Nottingham, were C. Wyld, J. Bigsby, G. Wakefield, M. Brown, Abel Collin Launder, James Eaton, Richard Plumbe, G. Walker, R. Hopper, E. Williams, R. Molesworth, J. Davison, Snowden White, J. Storer, J. & T. Wright, S. Statham, W. Elliott, J. Sutton, J. Morris, J. Fellows, R. Butler, J. Carruthers, and J. Alleyne. The committee secured subscriptions, appointed teachers, and opened the Exchange Hall as a school-room. They also made the subjoined rules for the government of the institution:—

1. That no child shall be received or continued, unless he or she come to school with clean linen, washed hands and face, and hair combed.
2. That none be admitted under eight years old, or above fourteen.
3. That each scholar must attend at half-past eight in the morning, and at one in the afternoon, and be conducted by the master or mistress to church, and return to school.
4. That such child as does not regularly attend, without sufficient excuse, will lose the benefit of this charity.
5. That subscribers shall be allowed to recommend scholars according to the amount of the subscription.

To improve the navigation of the Trent a side canal of several miles in length was commenced this year, in order to avoid

- 1784 twenty-one shoals which lie in little more than thirteen miles of its course between the bridges at Nottingham and Sawley. This excavation, sometimes called the "Trent canal," has a rise of 28 feet, and crosses the Erewash navigation near Attenborough.

1785.

- 1785 *January 1.*—Mr. William Vinson, farmer, Edwalton was returning this evening from Nottingham market, and was attacked near West Bridgeford by two footpads. One of them held his horse's bridle, while the other pulled him off his saddle, and rifled his pockets of 23s., a silver watch, and a quantity of sugar, tea, soap, and tobacco. They then lifted him upon his horse, shook hands, and wished him a good night. Mr. Vinson made the best of his way home, and alarmed the village. The villagers armed themselves with pitchforks, guns, and stakes, and pursued the robbers, whom they came up with near the Trent-bridge. One of them was secured near the Trent-bridge inn, and the other as he was getting over the gate into the Aldermen's Parts. The stolen property was found near the inn door. Their names were ascertained to be John Pendrill and John Townsend. They were at once committed to the assizes. They were tried on the 4th of March, and were sentenced to death, along with two other criminals named Anderson and Cook. Mr. Justice Heath, whose severity as a judge was proverbial, in passing sentence upon them, said emphatically, "I will cause the laws to be executed with such severity as shall enable any gentleman to hang his watch by the highway-side, with the full confidence of finding it there on his return another day."

Pendrill was a native of this town, and a lineal descendant of the Pendrills of Staffordshire, one of whom concealed and fed Charles II. in the oak after the battle of Worcester. Cook was also a native of Nottingham, and a framework knitter. He suffered for robbing Mr. Edward Pearson,* on the highway, in the parish of Radford, four years previously. Though but a small man in stature, he made such a desperate resistance when the constables apprehended him, that the blows received by him in return placed his life for some days in great jeopardy. Most of the blows were upon his head, and he took advantage of them to afterwards pretend to be insane. He acted his part so well, that when brought up for trial at several succeeding assizes, he was remanded by the judges, as being unfit to plead. During his long confinement, it was his office to sweep the inner and outer yards of the prison, and he at length took the opportunity of running away. So little notice was taken of this circumstance, that though it was known that he had taken up his residence at Smalley,

* Mr. Pearson afterwards kept the "Doctor Willis" public-house on the Long-row, near the Black Boy inn.

in Derbyshire, no search was made after him. Some officious person, however, at that place caused him to be apprehended; but as the constables were conducting him to his old quarters, he again made his escape, at the Gallows inn, in Ilkeston, while they were taking refreshment. He next took up his abode at Thurmaston, in Leicestershire, where for a short time he worked at his business, and might doubtless have remained there undisturbed, had he not given way to his old propensity. It happened however one day he went to Leicester, and stole a coat and several other articles of wearing apparel, belonging to Mr. Linthwaite, of that place. This person, suspecting Cook to be the thief, had him taken before a magistrate, and while in the presence of the Mayor, a recruit came in from Nottingham to be attested. This man immediately recognised him, and Cook was brought back to the County Gaol, and convicted on the original charge.

Anderson was a native of Scotland, and advanced in years. He had resided many years at Kirkby-in-Ashfield, and was not only a common receiver of stolen goods, but also employed himself in ascertaining the most likely spots to be plundered, containing anything of value. Whenever he made a discovery he furnished his confederates with the requisite instructions, and supplied them with suitable housebreaking implements. The crime for which he was hung was having a horse in his possession, belonging to Mr. Wm. Bowmar, of Kirkby. He had purchased it from the man who stole it, but being convinced that if he impeached his accomplice, twenty other crimes of a capital nature might be brought against him, he submitted to his fate, and refused to make a disclosure.

The other convict, Townsend, was a native of Lenton.

They were executed on the 23rd. After the bodies had hung the usual time, they were delivered to their friends for interment. Pendrill was taken to his mother's house on Drury-hill, Townsend to his father's at Lenton, and the others to St. Mary's church-yard.

January.—The predominant ladies' fashions are thus described by a writer in the *Journal*.—"The great coat and belt is now become so general, that a woman in *female* attire is almost a phenomenon. From the lady of fashion to the milkwoman, from the charioted courtesan to the common street walker, all strut in manly attire, and bid defiance to wind and weather. Its uses are various; it saves the trouble of dress, and hides the poverty of rags. It is a substitute for gown and petticoat, and answers the purpose of shawl, cloak, and handkerchief. It dirties only the shoes and stockings, they being all the apparel necessary for a woman, in a great coat, except a bonnet and a pair of gloves. It is also a type of the humility of great people, the green stall women and gardeners' wives having worn them under the name of *Josephs* without any intermission or change of taste, for these hundred years past. The ladies are quite at a loss for an elegant winter cap. They have gone through all the forms that imagination can

1785 devise: the front of their heads have been like porches to church doors; then like the cupola of St. Paul's; afterwards a mere flat ground; then came the balloon; and now it is something neither resembling anything in the heavens above, or in the earth beneath, or anywhere else! The toupee is laid almost flat, and the side curls disposed with as little appearance of art as possible. The Spanish hat is rejected for the English slouch, which they wear down on all sides, *sans* ornament, except a single ribbon, and which hides beauty even more than the *cardinal*, and when it is seen, nearly converts it to ugliness. Large buckles are entirely the rage amongst the ladies, who, it seems, have taken up arms, or rather feet, in defence of the buckle manufactory, which the gentlemen are on the point of deserting, as it is become fashionable to ornament the male foot with the pink bow or silken rose."

January.—The frost set in with such unusual intensity that it did not break up till the middle of March.

February 12.—The local newspaper states: "On Saturday last, two countrymen were drove out of our market by the populace, for selling butter at the enormous price of one shilling per pound. One of them was severely pelted. The other escaped more favourably, being gifted with a light pair of heels."

March 9.—A county meeting of freeholders, convened by Sherbrooke Lowe, Esq., High Sheriff, was held at the Old Assembly Room, in Newark, for the purpose of promoting Parliamentary reform. The orators on the occasion were, the High Sheriff, Jos. Sykes, Esq., Major Cartwright, Mr. Dickenson Rastall, barrister, Mr. Heywood, the Rev. G. Walker, and Mr. Turner. The petition adopted prayed for a wide extension of the suffrage, and a repeal of the Septennial Act. The following gentlemen supported the petition by their votes:—G. Neville, Esq., Samuel Unwin, Esq., S. Unwin, jun., Esq., and the Rev. S. E. Stevenson.

June.—The transmission of mail-bags between London and Nottingham was greatly accelerated by the following arrangement:—The coach from this time left the metropolis at eight o'clock in the evening, and arrived in Nottingham at noon the next day. In returning, it left our Post-office at four in the afternoon, and arrived in London about eight the next morning. Considering the state of the roads, this was a surprising performance.

June 5.—Death of Mr. William White, aged 91 years, upwards of 37 years sexton of St. Mary's parish, during which period there had been under his superintendence, 11,234 interments. Strange as it may seem, the vacant office was strongly coveted by several respectable parties, who issued printed addresses to the ratepayers, full of professions and promises, formed committees, opened public-houses, and instituted a close canvass. It seemed as if burying one's neighbour was a pleasant and desirable thing. At the meeting of the vestry, on the 28th, four persons were

nominated, viz., Mr. Samuel Creswell, formerly a printer and book-seller, Mr. John Johnson, Mr. Richd. Burton, and Mr. J. Yates. A poll was demanded, and resulted in the success of the first named gentleman. 1785

July 4.—A Mr. Cracknell had advertised his intention of ascending from before the Stand, on the Forest, in a balloon, a spectacle not yet witnessed in Nottingham; and the novelty drew together the population for miles around. Unfortunately, the aeronaut had not proper apparatus for generating a sufficient quantity of hydrogen gas, and from twelve to seven o'clock, kept the people on the tiptoe of expectation, and so severely tested their patience that they were at length for tossing him into the air, spite of his pertinacity in sticking to *terra firma*. They however took the matter into their own hands, and, regardless of the protestations of the unlucky experimenter, cut the cords, and liberated the balloon without an occupant. They further showed their resentment by breaking the vessels and conductors, and finally, by making a bonfire of the whole apparatus. The balloon descended the same evening, near Horncastle, in Lincolnshire, and was found by some labouring men, who tore it up, and divided the fragments.

July 27.—Execution of Thomas Cobb, for housebreaking. This malefactor was a very poor man, and had a large family. His necessities had driven him to the overseer of the parish to which he belonged for relief; and being benighted on his return home, he called at a small public-house in Normanton-upon-Trent, kept by Elizabeth Selby, and asked for lodgings. Being refused, he went into the yard, thinking to sleep in a stable or barn; but whilst wandering about, he saw the landlady undressing for bed, in the parlour, and observed her lay her pocket in the chair under the window; and being urged by a sense of his necessities, the temptation became too strong for his resistance. He accordingly extracted a pane and hooked out the pocket with a stick unperceived. The contents were of little value. This was the felony for which the poor man was sentenced to be hung. His previous good character and the extenuating circumstances of the case induced a number of gentlemen to memorialize the Judge and the Secretary of State for a commutation of the sentence; but the law was as that of Draco, written in letters of blood, and the memorialists were doomed to disappointment. He was a native of Hayton, near Retford, and was executed in the 30th year of his age. His body was interred in St. Mary's church-yard.

August 27.—The large mace, that had belonged to the Corporation since the time of Charles II., and was usually borne before the Mayor in all civic processions, was stolen from the house of his Worship, on Beastmarket-hill. The mace was suffered to hang in one of the front rooms of the ground-floor, and as it could be seen by all who passed by the window, it was pointed out as an object of cupidity by two profligate men, one of whom was

- 1785 afterwards admitted evidence against the other. They obtained possession of the prize by a stratagem. When the evening set in, one of them closed the window-shutters, and the inmates, supposing that the shutters had been put to by one of themselves, and that all was secure, neglected to fasten them. The entrance in the night was consequently quite easy; and so eager were the plunderers after the mace, that they did not discover nearly two hundred pounds worth of plate, which was in a cupboard in the same room. The thieves were detected in consequence of their not knowing how to separate the gold from the silver after the mace had been melted down. James Shipley, one of them, was subsequently convicted of the burglary; and owing to the Judge who tried him being less severe than the one who sacrificed poor Cobb, was sentenced to seven years transportation to Nova Scotia. He however made his escape from the coach which was conveying him to the port, and after many adventures, managed to get into France, where he stayed till after the Revolution, and then returned to Nottingham.

September 13.—The Nottingham Chamber of Manufacturers gave an elegant dinner to D. P. Coke, Esq., M.P., "as a compliment for his patriotic and manly exertions in Parliament against the Irish propositions for the admission of their manufactures; and for his polite and zealous attention to their remarks on, and objections to, that absurd and pernicious system." Mr. Coke was also presented by the Corporation with the freedom of the town.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Wm. Huthwaite entered upon the Mayoralty a second time.

November 1.—One of the most remarkable natural phenomena which ever occurred in this country was observed at this date. It is thus described in the *Gentleman's Magazine*:—In the early morning the sky was clear; though the preceding day the sky had been overcast with some distant thunder. About eleven o'clock in the forenoon the sky became overcast like the preceding day, and remained heavy at intervals until the afternoon, the wind being first at south-west, and then falling to a dead calm. At four in the afternoon an immense water spout was first seen, proceeding from a dense cloud, apparently about a quarter of a mile southward of the Trent, and moving slowly towards it; and it was remarked that the branches of the trees over which it passed were bent towards the ground. As the cloud came nearer the river, it appeared to be strongly attracted by it, and when it crossed did not seem more than thirty or forty feet from the surface of the water, which was violently agitated, and flew upward to a great height in every direction. Some persons who saw it with terror and astonishment from the Trent-bridge, described it in appearance as a huge black inverted cone, terminating nearly in a point, and in which they perceived very plainly a whirling spiral motion, accompanied by a rumbling noise like distant thunder. By the

description which the spectators gave of it, the middle of the column appeared to be nearly twenty feet in diameter. After passing the river, it ascended slowly and majestically in a N.E. direction; and nothing came within the limits of its powers until it came over Sneinton, which, as in the great storm of 1558,* seemed doomed to encounter the full force of its vengeance. Taking the thatch entirely from several barns and cottages, and tearing up some apple trees by the roots, one of which, four feet in circumference, was broken short off near the ground, and the body and branches carried to a considerable distance, it proceeded to a large and substantial barn, which it entirely levelled to the ground. The adjoining house, too, was entirely unroofed, and otherwise much shattered; a sycamore tree, standing in the yard, and which measured nearly two yards in circumference, was torn up; in short, nothing could resist its impetuous action. The rain falling heavily at the time, joined to the roaring noise of the tempest and the terrific aspect of the yet undissolved water spout, floating, as it were, a little above their heads, produced among the spectators a feeling of alarm and confusion which it would be impossible to describe.

It being the period of the statute for hiring servants at the time when this extraordinary occurrence took place, a most ludicrous scene presented itself to those who were in a mood to enjoy the fun, by the confusion into which the hucksters' stalls, baskets, &c., were thrown, with all their wares, by the passing of the tornado over the field. Several persons, in attempting to save their goods, were hurled by the force of the wind with great violence against or into the very middle of the hedge. One boy, about 14 years of age, it is stated, was actually carried over the hedge into an adjoining field, but happily without injury. The people in the public-house, which stood in the direction of the storm, were all of them seized with a painful sensation in the head, which continued for some hours afterwards. Flashes of lightning were observed to dart from the cloud whilst it was passing over the fields, and as the cloud rolled over the Colwick hills, the people at the tavern saw it very visibly contract and expand in a most remarkable manner, as though it had been under the influence of electrical attraction and repulsion from some extraneous forces. The whole scene continued for about twenty minutes.

1786.

January 11.—A public meeting of the shopkeepers of the

* Stowe, in his *Chronicles*, p. 500, records a remarkable tempest, which is said to have occurred in the neighbourhood of this town, in the year 1558, the 6th of Queen Mary. "On the 7th of July," he says, "within a mile of Nottingham was a marvellous tempest of thunder, which, as it came through two towns (supposed to be Bridgeford and Sneinton), beat down all the houses and churches; the bells were cast to the outside of the churchyards, and some webs of lead rolled 400 feet into the field, writhen like a pair of gloves. The river Trent running between the two towns, the water, with the mud in the bottom, was carried a quarter of a mile; many trees were pulled up by the roots, and cast twelve score feet off: also, a child was taken forth of a man's hand, two spear length high, and carried an hundred feet, and then let fall, whereby his arm was broke, and so he died; five or six men were slain. There fell some hail-stones that were fifteen inches about."

1786

1786 town was held at the Flying Horse inn, in opposition to the Government tax on retail shops. This impost was peculiarly obnoxious, and operated as an additional house tax, the shops being assessed according to the rent of the premises. A petition was agreed upon, and signed by two hundred shopkeepers.

March 17.—William Hands was convicted at the assizes, before Mr. Justice Heath, of stealing a black mare, the property of Mr. Hopewell, of Mansfield; and John Lister, for stealing a sheep at Wilford. Both of them were left for execution. Lister was apprehended under the following circumstances. Mr. Spencer, of the Red Lion inn, Narrow-marsh, having lost a sack of malt, and suspecting Lister to have made free with it, obtained a search-warrant. On searching his house in Woolpack-lane, parts of the carcasses of two sheep were discovered, and sworn to as having been stolen from the flock of Mr. John Deverill, of Wilford. The malt was found in a stable, rented by Lister, in the Spread Eagle yard. The convicts were hanged on Wednesday, the 29th. Hands was 27 years of age, and Lister 21. The body of the former was buried the same day, in St. Mary's church-yard; and that of the latter at Wilford.

June 13.—This morning, between the hours of five and seven, five prisoners managed to escape from the County Gaol, viz., Joseph Higginbottom, William Wood, Daniel Hayes (three convicts), Thomas Bradbury, and Edward Morley. One them got out independently of the rest, and without their knowledge, by means of a false key. The others effected a lodgment upon a roof adjoining the felons' yard, and letting themselves down by a rope, got clear away. These escapes indicate that the internal government of the prison must have been very defective.

June 27.—The birthday of the Right Hon. Sir John Cam Hobhouse, Bart., President of the Board of Control, and M.P. for Harwich. Sir J. C. Hobhouse represented Nottingham in the House of Commons from 1834 to 1847: (afterwards created Lord Broughton). The hon. baronet was the eldest of twelve sons of the late Sir Benjamin Hobhouse, Bart., one of whom was the member for Lincoln. He was educated at Cambridge, and after quitting the University, travelled in 1809 and 1810 into Albania, Roumelia, and other provinces of Turkey, with the lamented Byron. His first entrance into Parliament was as the representative of Westminster, and in that capacity he exerted himself with distinguished ability in favour of the Reform Bill. He succeeded Sir Henry Parnall in the office of Secretary at War, 1832, when he opposed a motion for the abolition of flogging in the army, but at the same time reduced the number of lashes allowable by one third. The vote gave great offence to some of his constituents, and he resigned his seat. On his election for Nottingham, he was at first Chief Commissioner of Woods and Forests, and subsequently President of the Board of Control, with a seat in the Cabinet. He died June 3rd, 1869.

June 21.—Sanguinary as some of the scenes brought to view in the preceding pages may appear, and difficult as it may be to reconcile them with the requirements of justice, much less with the dictates of humanity, the subjoined instance of the barbarity of the times would be almost incredible were it not well authenticated. The subject of it was a young woman of Nottingham extraction, her mother having been a native of the town, named Phœbe Harris. She was small in stature, rather stout and of good figure, pale complexion, and pleasing features. Her age was 30, and she lived with her husband in London. She was detected whilst in the act of coining money, to which she had been instigated by her husband, who it appeared was an old practitioner. For this offence she was tried at the Old Bailey, and sentenced to death. She was conducted on a subsequent day by two constables to the open space in front of Newgate, in the presence of about twenty thousand spectators, where a stake had been securely fixed in the ground, about eleven feet high, and with a curved projection of iron at the top, to which was affixed a halter. The prisoner was placed on a stool, with her back to the stake, and after the ordinary of the gaol had prayed with her for a short time, the stool was pulled from underneath, leaving her suspended by the neck, with her feet about a foot from the ground. Two cart loads of faggots were then placed round her and set on fire. The halter speedily snapped, and the body slipped, but was sustained by an iron chain passed round her waist and the stake. In the course of three hours the corpse was entirely consumed.

The unfortunate sufferer was struck with so much horror at the idea of her body being burnt, that in the night previous to her execution she was quite frantic. When she was led to the stake, she appeared languid and terrified, and trembled excessively. The awful apparatus of death evidently struck her mind with consternation, and totally incapacitated her for the last devotional exercises. The spectators were loud in their execrations against the officers of the law while the victim was burning, but immediately on their withdrawing, amused themselves by kicking about her ashes. An application had been made to the Sheriffs by the respectable inhabitants of the neighbourhood, praying that the execution might take place at Tyburn, or at some small distance from them, but without avail. The consequences were serious: several ladies were taken very unwell, and many were severely affected by the offensive effluvia.*

August 20.—Death of Mr. Matthew Unwin, hosier, aged 28 years. In 1783 this lamented individual published a small volume of poems, which were favourably received.

September 29.—Mr. Ald. John Carruthers elected Mayor.

* The offence of "coining," for which Phœbe Harris suffered, came under the denomination of "high treason." Blackstone accounts for the punishment of women for this crime being different from that of men, by stating that the natural modesty of the sex forbids the exposure and public division of their bodies, and therefore they are burnt. The punishment of men for high treason was, beheading, dividing the body into four parts, and burning the heart.

1786

December 12.—A remarkable escape from death, at the premises of Mr. Wilson, bookseller, South-parade. Mr. Stretton, builder, accidentally met a Mr. Wood, of Eastwood, and stood conversing with him on the causeway in front of the shop. Suddenly, a violent gust of wind overthrew a stack of chimneys, which in their descent brought down with them a large portion of the roof, and a quantity of the brick-work of the front wall. Neither of the gentlemen had warning sufficient to run out of danger. An apparently solid mass fell upon the back and head of Mr. Stretton, but chiefly upon his shoulders, beating him to the ground, and cutting the back of his coat into shreds. He endeavoured two or three times to get up, but the bricks continually falling upon him, prevented him. Mr. Wood also received serious injuries. They were taken away in sedan chairs, and both of them eventually recovered, though not without great difficulty.*

In the year 1613, eleven tenements in Hounds-gate were bequeathed by W. Gregory, of this town, to the Corporation, as "almshouses for ever," for poor aged people to dwell in free of rent, with 40s. a year out of the Boycroft, to be applied in repairs and fuel, or other charitable relief, amongst the said poor aged people. In 1732 they were divided into three equal parts, and a lease of each, for 999 years, at a pepper-corn rent, was granted by the Corporation.

This year (1786), the parishes and Corporation united in selling these tenements, and in lieu, St. Peter's built the workhouse in Broad-marsh; St. Mary's built twelve small tenements, called White-rents, in York-street, on land given for that purpose by the Corporation; and St. Nicholas's built the eight White-rents at the bottom of Finkhill-street and Greyfriars-gate. There is no record in the Hall books of the particular grants of land in 1786, but there are entries in the years 1783 and 1786 showing the transaction as above stated; and it is to be inferred there were no deeds of conveyance for the sites of the White-rents, no lease, no rent. It seems therefore that the sites, as well as the buildings, belong to each parish respectively in perpetuity, but that the appropriation of the charity to its original purposes is still incumbent.

1787.

1787

March 7.—Launch of "The Nottingham," at Gravesend, one of the largest East Indiamen ever built. Amongst the spectators were the Marquis of Lansdowne, Earl Darnley, many of the Directors of the East India Company, the Sheriffs of London,

* Mr. Wilson's premises occupied the site of the house and shop, the property of the late Mr. Jon. Dunn. Mr. Dunn, who was previously a hosier, succeeded the widow of Mr. Wilson, and entirely rebuilt the premises in 1823. He had a lively recollection of the accident above referred to, being Mr. Wilson's apprentice at the time, and himself narrowly escaping from death by an immense fall of materials at the same moment through the ceiling of the parlour in which he and Mrs. Wilson were sitting.

and most of the Aldermen, in compliment to their brother Alderman, Mr. William Curtis, the owner of the vessel. There were also more than a hundred ladies, very richly attired. A very superb silk flag was hoisted, on which was figured a view of Nottingham Castle and the town arms. An elegant carving of the Castle, in Sherwood oak, surmounted the centre of the stern gallery. On the starboard side of the gallery were painted the Nottingham arms, and on the larboard side, the arms of Mr. Alderman Curtis. But the most prominent object was the head of the ship, which represented a Tartar armed with a large shield, on which was also emblazoned the town arms. This figure was executed in the most imposing style, and reflected credit upon the carver. After the launch, the ladies and gentlemen, 276 in number, including several of our townsmen, were most sumptuously entertained at dinner, with all the delicacies of the season and the choicest wines. Alderman Curtis, in drinking "success to the ship Nottingham," coupled with the toast, "prosperity to the ancient town of Nottingham, and success to its manufactory, with the health of the Mayor, Corporation, and Burgesses." This was received with three times three cheers, and met with due response. Mr. Walker then sang—

"Nottingham ale, boys, Nottingham ale."

a song, which though not proper to be repeated in ears polite, appears to have been a great favourite with our townsmen of the past generation. A grand ball completed the festivity.

March 31.—Died at his residence at Calverton, aged 78 years, Mr. Alderman Thomas Oldknow. This gentleman was remarkable for his experience in land surveying. He had been a commissioner under more inclosure acts than any other person probably in the kingdom. His remains were deposited with those of his relations in the parish church of Heanor.

April 8.—The new mace, manufactured in London to replace the one that had been stolen, accompanied the usual Sabbath procession to Divine service at St. Mary's, the first time. On this occasion the Mayor was attended by the Aldermen, Town Clerk, Sheriffs, Senior and Junior Council, and other members of the Corporation. Mr. Howard, Sergeant-at-Mace, was presented with a new blue cloak, richly ornamented with gold lace (such having been the livery of that officer from time immemorial); and so great was the desire to see the mace, that the streets were lined with people the whole of the route. The mace is twenty-five ounces heavier than the former one, and weighs nearly two hundred ounces. It is about five feet long. The inscription is, "*Johannes Carruthers, Armigero Preside Nottinghamiæ, 1787.*" On its head, are the arms of England, beautifully quartered, from which arise four supporters, surmounted by a handsome globe. The emblem of Royal authority and civic dignity also bears the arms of Scotland, Ireland, and France.

1787 *September 28.*—In consequence of the high price of butter, ranging from 9d. to 1s. per pound, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council, in Common Hall assembled, agreed to send for several tons of the best Irish, and retail it to the public at prime cost. This expedient was found to be so popular that successive consignments were sent for and eagerly bought.

September 29.—Mr. Ald. Lowe entered upon the Mayoralty.

October 26.—A large number of framework knitters assembled in the Market-place in a riotous manner, marched to the house of a person named Greaves, in Narrow-marsh, and broke a frame to pieces, the property of Mr. Hooton, hosier, High-pavement. The Mayor immediately swore in a number of special constables, and issued a handbill of a cautionary nature; and the local Chamber of Commerce offered a reward of twenty guineas for the discovery of the offenders. There was consequently no further breach of the peace.

November 22.—Thomas Morris, one of the paid masters of the Sabbath schools held in the Exchange Rooms, having been suspected of an improper intimacy with a female scholar, and discharged from his situation in consequence, committed suicide. He was found in a hovel, in "James's copse," in the Lammas fields, about a mile from the town, by a young milkwoman, who was so terrified at seeing a man apparently dead that she ran and left her milk-pail behind her. He was carried home still alive, but died in a few hours, having taken laudanum in large quantities. The Coroner's jury returning a verdict of *felo de se*, the body was buried at seven the following Saturday night, at the top of Derby-road. On the lowering of the Sand-hills, about 1815, Morris's skeleton was exhumed, in common with the remains of several others. It was easily distinguishable by the fragments of wood which adhered to it, he having been the only one buried in a coffin. The skull afterwards ornamented the compositors' room of one of the newspaper offices.

November 23.—The remains of Charles, Duke of Rutland, and Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, were brought to Nottingham in grand funeral procession, on their way from Dublin to the family mausoleum at Bottesford. The body lay in state during the night, in the large room of the Blackmoor's Head inn, which had been hung with black for the occasion. The procession recommenced its progress between nine and ten the next morning, the muffled bells of St. Mary's and St. Peter's sending forth mournful tones. A company of Light Horse led the way; followed by a number of mutes, six men with gilt staves, the Duke's Hussar, bearing the coronet on a crimson velvet cushion, his favourite horse led by two pages and supported by soldiers on both sides, the hearse (containing the body) drawn by six horses and superbly adorned with magnificent plumes of black feathers and escutcheons of his Grace's arms, &c., and the horses gorgeously caparisoned, five mourning coaches, his Grace's state coach, retainers, and gentlemen on horseback.

December 18.—The Mayor and Common Council, knowing that for some time past their estates had been neglected, and that the workmen employed in the several departments under the Corporation frequently misspent their time, appointed John Collishaw, Gent., of the Senior Council, their Steward, with a salary of forty guineas per annum. Mr. Collishaw lived to the advanced age of 84, and died at his house in Hounds-gate, October 19, 1819. 1787

The first convicts despatched from the Midland counties to Australia, left England this year. From the circumstance of their being landed upon an inlet called Botany Bay, transports for many years afterwards were popularly understood to be "sent to Botany Bay."

1788.

February 5.—A true and complete peal of five thousand and forty changes Bob Royal (ten in), was rung on the deep-toned peal of ten bells at St. Mary's, by a select company of the Nottingham Society. It occupied three hours and forty-four minutes. 1788

February 11.—A public meeting, convened by the Mayor in compliance with a requisition, was held at the Town Hall, to deliberate on the subject of the slave trade. Its chief promoters were the clergy and Dissenting ministers, and Messrs. S. Smith, F. Hart, R. Denison, J. Morris, and R. Butler. The following resolution was adopted:—"That this meeting approves of a petition to the House of Commons, requesting of them in their legislative capacity, that some fit and wise means may be adopted for abolishing the horrid trade of slavery in our Plantations; and for placing the slaves already existing there in a more favourable state, by extending to them the protection of law in all the unalienable rights of human nature." A committee was formed, and a subscription entered into, to advance the object of the meeting.

March 26.—A woman named Mary Bramwell, who had been committed to the Town Gaol for being implicated in a robbery, made her escape by removing the bricks of a wall twenty inches thick, under the window of a cell in which she was confined. This escape was considered very astonishing.

April 12.—Died, at her house near the Leen-bridge, in the 92nd year of her age, Mrs. Mary Etough. Her first husband was Mr. Wm. Stevens, who carried the gold cup before the Corporation in grand procession on the Thanksgiving Day, July 7th, 1713, for the restoration of peace to this kingdom by Her Majesty Queen Anne. She survived her second husband, Mr. Anthony Etough, supervisor of excise, nearly forty years. Her remains were deposited in the south aisle of St. Mary's church.

May 12.—A serious riot took place on account of the high

1788 price of butchers' meat. The doors and shutters in the Shambles were taken into the Market-place and burnt, along with many of the butchers' books; and great quantities of meat were stolen. The temperate and conciliatory conduct of the authorities, however, soon quelled the outbreak.

June 7.—Lieutenant Bright, of the Nottinghamshire Militia (which had been called up for training), having spent the evening with his brother officers, retired to his lodgings on the Long-row. After he had been in his bedroom, as was supposed, some time, suspicion arose in the house that something was amiss. On entering his apartment, it was found he was in a state of insensibility and enveloped in flames. The fatality, it was generally believed, arose from his having sat down too near the candle, at the time he was undressing for bed. He had recently introduced into the town the since universal practice of wearing braces.

July 12.—Died, at his seat at Wilford, aged 71 years, Abel Smith, Esq., an eminent banker of this town. In 1774, this gentleman was returned to Parliament the member for Aldborough, in Yorkshire; in the year 1780, for St. Ives, in Cornwall; and at the time of his decease he was the representative of St. Germain, in the same county. He was father of R. Smith, Esq., M.P. for Nottingham.

July 13.—Death of Humphrey Hollins, Esq., Senior Alderman of the Corporation, at his house in Wheeler-gate, aged 88 years. He served the office of Sheriff in the year 1739.

July 17.—The Mayor and Corporation dined at Thurland Hall in a sumptuous manner, with Lord Middleton, John Sherwin, Esq., Thomas Plumbé, Esq., Cornelius Launder, Esq., Francis Gawthorn, Esq., and many other gentlemen of influence and station.

September 10.—The workmen at Mr. Jowitt's extensive wool warehouse, in Hounds-gate, were astonished this morning by perceiving a peculiarly offensive smell, and upon investigation, found the body of Mr. Rogers, hosier (who had been missing), in an advanced state of putrefaction. It was conjectured that the lamented individual had reclined on some woolpacks to rest for a few minutes, and had been so unfortunate as to slip down a great depth between a number of them, and being unable to get out, or to make his situation known, had sank down, completely overpowered.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Howitt elected Mayor.

* *November 4.*—The centenary of the Revolution of 1688 was celebrated in Nottingham in the following manner:—A public dinner was provided by Mr. Simpson, of the Blackmoor's Head inn, at Thurland Hall, consisting of nearly forty dishes, of every delicacy in season, to which about fifty gentlemen sat down. The following toasts were drank:—The immortal memory of King William (three times three); Queen Mary; the King, Queen, and Royal Family; the Duke of Portland; the Members for the

Town and County; Lord Middleton; Mr. Montagu; Mr. Musters; Mr. Smelt; and May every plot against the King and Constitution meet the fate of the Gunpowder Plot. John Wright, jun., Esq., was in the chair, and John Stamford, Esq., in the vice-chair. 1788

A similar company dined at the Salutation inn, in Hounds-gate. The toasts here, it will be seen, were somewhat different:—The joyous commemoration of the glorious Revolution of 1688 (three cheers and a song); the immortal memories of King William and Queen Mary, the preservers of our Constitution in Church and State (three cheers and a song, "He comes, he comes, the hero comes"); the memories of the worthies that joined their hearts and hands in the glorious cause, ever remembering the names of a Devonshire, a Delamere, a Danby, and a Howe (three cheers and a song); the King, and may he ever follow the example of his Royal ancestors, and glory in the name of Briton (three cheers, and "God save the King"); the Queen and her Royal Offspring, and may they ever maintain the rights and liberties of Britons (three cheers and a song).

There was also a ball and supper at the Assembly Rooms, very brilliantly and fashionably attended. At twelve p.m., the company retired into the drawing-room, states the record, "during the preparation of setting the tables and covering them with ninety-four dishes and eighty-six desserts, the whole being brought in and set out by Mr. Simpson, of the Blackmoor's Head inn, and assistants, in eight minutes and a half." During the evening, large bonfires were kept up in different parts of the town, accompanied by every public demonstration of joy.

The conspicuous position assigned to Nottingham in the Revolution of 1688, renders it essential that we revert to the leading incidents, especially as no other local historian has yet noticed the remarkable fact of the Princess Anne's temporary residence in the town. It is stated by Deering, that "there are men still living in the town (1751), who well remember that ten days before the celebrated declaration dated 'Nottingham, 23rd of November, 1688,' the Duke of Devonshire, the Earl of Stamford, the Lord Howe, and other noblemen, and abundance of the gentry of the county of Nottingham, resorted to this town, and went to meet one another at their respective inns, daily increasing in number, and continued at Nottingham till the arrival of Lord Delamere, with between four or five hundred horse. This nobleman quartered at the Feathers inn,* whither all the rest of the noblemen and gentlemen came to meet him; and till this time the people of the town were unacquainted with the result of these frequent consultations, when the above-mentioned lord, after he

* The Feathers inn was situated nearly at the top of the west side of Wheeler-gate. Mr. T. Bailey states that "it was held up the yard now occupied by Mr. Bennett and Mr. Jones; but only removed there after it was given up by Mr. Prentice, who, if I mistake not, first occupied the premises of the present inn (the Old Moot Hall) as a private house. The original 'Feathers Inn' was undoubtedly the premises now occupied by Mr. John Brown. A variety of evidence could be afforded in confirmation of this statement, if necessary."

1788 had stayed awhile in the town, having a mind to try the disposition of the populace, on a sudden ordered the trumpets to sound to arms, giving out that the King's (James II.) forces were within four miles of Nottingham, whereupon the whole town was in alarm. Multitudes who had horses, mounted and accoutred themselves with such arms as they had, whilst others in vast numbers on foot appeared, some with firelocks, some with swords, some with other weapons, even pitchforks not excepted; and being told of the necessity of securing the passage over the Trent, they immediately drew all the boats that were near at hand, to the north bank of the river, and with them, and some timbers and boards on the wharf, with barrels and all the frames of the market-stalls, barricaded the north-side of the Trent. My Lord Delamere and his party, well pleased with the readiness of the people to give their assistance, his Lordship sent his men and some officers to the Prince of Orange, but himself, with a few officers, stayed till the next day, being Saturday, which is the principal market-day, when he, the Duke of Devonshire, the Lord Howe, &c., appeared at the Malt-cross, and in the face of a full market, the Lord Delamere, in a speech, declared to the people the danger their religion and liberty were in under the arbitrary proceedings of the King, and that Providence had sent his Highness the Prince of Orange, under God, to deliver them from Popery and slavery, for which reason, according to the Prince his declaration, they were for a free Parliament, and hoped their concurrence. This was seconded by a speech of the Duke of Devonshire, and also of the Lord Howe, and was followed by the shouts of the people, who cried out, 'A free Parliament! A free Parliament!' This done, Lord Delamere departed to follow his troops, whilst the Duke and Lord Howe made it known that they were for raising horse in defence of their liberty, and would list such as were willing to be entertained, whereupon upwards of an hundred men, who offered themselves, were entered the same day."

The circumstances connected with the flight of the Princess Anne, subsequently Sovereign of these realms, are thus detailed in Mrs. A. Thompson's *Memoirs of Surah, Duchess of Marlborough, and of the Court of Queen Anne.* It must be premised that William, Prince of Orange, had landed at Torbay, and that King James had been out to meet him as far as Salisbury, where he stayed a week, but had returned to London, owing to numerous defections, the Prince George of Denmark amongst the number. "Here," states the authoress, "a severer blow than any which James had hitherto experienced, fell upon him: the Princess Anne had fled. At first, to aggravate the King's distress, a mystery was made of her flight, and it was insinuated that James, by encouraging the Papists, had been instrumental in the death of his child, who, it was said, had been murdered by them, on account of her Protestantism. James, who had fondly loved his

daughter, and had always shewn her the utmost tenderness, burst into tears, and in the agonies of parental feeling exclaimed, 'God help me, my own children have forsaken me!' 1788

"The following account of the caution with which Anne concerted her flight, and the mode in which she put it in execution, is given by her companion, the Duchess of Marlborough:—'The Princess went to bed at the usual time, to avoid suspicion. I came to her soon after; and by the back stairs which went down from her closet, her Royal Highness, my Lady Fitzhardinge, and I, with one servant, walked to the coach, where, according to arrangement, we found the Bishop of London and the Earl of Dorset. They conducted us that night to the Bishop's house in the city, and the next day to my Lord Dorset's at Copt Hall. From thence we went to the Earl of Northampton's, and from thence to Nottingham, where the country gathered round the Princess, nor did she think herself safe until she saw herself surrounded by the Prince of Orange's friends.'

"Inoffensive, and even popular from her strict adherence to Protestantism, Anne immediately met with defenders. A small body of volunteers mustered round her and formed a guard, commanded by no less a person than Dr. Compton, Bishop of London, the resolute prelate who had opposed the Court on various occasions, and especially in his refusal to suspend a Protestant clergyman for exposing Papistical errors. This zealous man, who had been a cornet of dragoons in his youth, now rode before the Princess and her suite, including the Duchess of Marlborough (then simply Lady Churchill), carrying a drawn sword in one hand, and pistols on his saddle-bow. In this chivalric guise the fugitive party reached Northampton and travelled on to Nottingham, where the gallant Earl of Devonshire, the friend of Russell, had raised a band of volunteers to assist the cause of the Revolution.*

"It happened that the famous Caius Gabriel Cibber, the sculptor, was at this time at Chatsworth, engaged by Lord Devonshire in the embellishment of that sumptuous place, and, in the words of Colley Cibber, of altering it 'from a Gothic to a Grecian magnificence.' Colley Cibber, in pursuance of his father's commands, travelled from London to Nottingham, and found the country in a state, if it may be so expressed, of peaceful commotion. When he arrived at Nottingham he found his father in arms there, among the Earl's volunteer company. Caius, however, was aged, and averse to the thought of a winter campaign, and he persuaded his patron to allow him to retire to Chatsworth to finish his works, and to substitute his young son, more fit for the business of war, into his honours and regimentals. The Earl consented, and Colley Cibber 'jumped,' as he expressed it, 'into his father's saddle.' He had not been many days in Nottingham before news

* The Princess and her distinguished attendants honoured the Feathers inn with their company during their stay in Nottingham.

1788 of the Princess Anne's flight reached that city, accompanied by the report that two thousand of the King's dragoons were in pursuit to bring her back to London. On this alarm the volunteers scrambled to arms, and advanced some miles on the London-road, in order to meet the Princess and her cavalcade, Anne being attended only by the Lady Churchill and the Lady Fitzhardinge. The party thus guarded entered Nottingham in safety, and were lodged and provided for by the care and at the charge of the Earl of Devonshire: and the same night all the noblemen and other persons of distinction in arms had the honour to sup at her Highness's table.

"There being more guests in number than attendants out of liveries to be found, Cibber, being well known in the Earl of Devonshire's family, was desired by the *maitre d'hôtel* to assist at the table. It fell to the lot of the young officer of volunteers to wait upon Lady Churchill, and he has left the following interesting memorandum of the occasion:—'Being so near the table, you may naturally ask me what I might have heard to have passed in conversation at it, which I certainly should tell you, had I attended to above two words that were uttered there, and those were, 'some wine and water.' These as I remember, came distinguished to my ear, because they came from the fair guest whom I took such pleasure to wait on. Except at that single sound, all my senses were collected into my eyes, which during the whole entertainment, wanted no better amusement than that of stealing now and then the delight of gazing on the fair object so near me. If so clear an emanation of beauty, such a commanding grace of aspect, struck me into a regard that had something softer than the most profound respect in it, I cannot see why I may not, without offence, remember it; since beauty, like the sun, must sometimes lose its power to choose, and shine into equal warmth the peasant and the courtier.' Such was the impression which Lady Churchill, most likely unconsciously, produced upon the imaginative Cibber, who, fifty years after this memorable scene, describes it in the foregoing glowing terms."

The interesting nature of the foregoing extracts will doubtless be deemed a sufficient reason for their insertion. The result of the movement will be found on the page of history.

December 31.—Amongst the number of attendants at the watch-night service at Hockley Chapel, was Joseph Heath, Gent., one of the Senior Council. At half-past twelve, the conclusion of the service, he lighted the candle of his lantern, seemed perfectly in health to all around him, and went home. Going upstairs to see his wife, who had not been well for some time, he sat down in a chair by the bedside, and in the course of conversation said to her, "I have got a great pain in my breast," and immediately fell down. Assistance was of no avail, for he died the same hour, in the 61st year of his age. He had acquired an independency as a bookseller.

Midnight depredations and disturbances having been numerous, the shopkeepers round the Market-place, and other respectable residents, formed themselves into an association for defence (there being no night-watch under the cognizance of the authorities). A yearly subscription was entered into, and it was agreed that every housekeeper should, in person or by deputy, watch a night in rotation, in such parties as the committee might determine. This plan of night-watching did not operate well, and soon fell to the ground. The poor found it to interfere with their necessary avocations, and the more wealthy originated the system of watch-boxes, rattles, and drowsy old watchmen, which many of the readers of *The Date-Book* will still remember. 1788

In the County Gaol at this period were two sisters, imprisoned under remarkable circumstances. Blackner states of them that their names "in what *they* called a state of wedlock were Roe and Bush. They suffered twelve years imprisonment on a point of conscience, and belonged to a religious sect that sprang up about 1785, at Calverton, in this county. Their tenets led them to hold the marriage ceremony, as performed in the Established Church, inimical to their faith, and therefore marry their own way. Mrs. Bush, soon after her marriage according to the rites of the sect, 'found herself in that situation in which women wish to be who love their lords,' and the overseer of the parish determined to make her feel the exercise of his authority. He accordingly took her to a magistrate, to compel her to father her child, but she declared herself a married woman, and as such, refused obedience. She was then driven knee-deep in snow to Southwell House of Correction, where, under the care of keeper Adams, a man whose cruelty and avarice went hand-in-hand, she lay-in, in a room which had an unglazed window, and through which the snow blew in flakes upon her bed of straw.

"She was liberated from this dreary situation, but soon after received a citation from the spiritual court, to which she paid no attention. This contempt brought upon her the full vengeance of the spiritual thunder. She was brought to Nottingham County Gaol; and to every Parliamentary and other effort that was made to obtain her's and her sister's liberation,* this answer was invariably made: they must be married in the Church of England, or they must father their children (for they had several in the Gaol); with which conditions they as invariably refused to comply. Thus these two women sacrificed to conscience that liberty which is so highly valued by all mankind. The unconquerable disposition of their minds, and the unrelenting severity of the ecclesiastical court, seemed to leave to death their enlargement: which would have stamped eternal odium on the character of the then metropolitan of the diocese of York. This he probably foresaw, and therefore connived at their liberation, which took place as follows:—In the year 1798, when the prison wall facing Narrow-

* The sister was confined under circumstances precisely similar.

- 1788 marsh was re-building, and new cells for the felons were preparing, the door of the prison was purposely set open ; a significant hint was given them, of which they took advantage ; and the next day the gaoler gave up their prison utensils, and received his fees. Thus ended the most extraordinary imprisonment that has disgraced the British annals since the Revolution of 1688."

1789.

- 1789 *January 1.*—Mr. Edenborough, of the Punch Bowl tavern, elected Steward of the Corporation estates, in the place of Lieut. Collishaw, who had resigned the office.

January 8.—Death of John Nodes, Gent., a retired silversmith of this town, in his 81st year. The tablet to his memory states that "he enjoyed fifty-six years of mutual love and domestic happiness, which was first interrupted by his decease, and was followed by that of his widow, on the 7th July, 1792, aged 78 years."

January 22.—The vane at the top of St. Peter's spire, which was placed there in 1735, and measured thirty-three inches in length, having become insecure, the parish officers agreed with Mr. Robert Wooton, of Kegworth, to take it down and reinstate it.

This venturesome man, henceforth known as "the steeple climber," commenced his undertaking by placing a ladder against the steeple, and securing it to the wall with tenters ; he then mounted that with another on his shoulder, which he fastened above it in like manner ; and so on till he reached the top. To prevent himself falling, he was girded round with belts, which he connected with the ladder by means of hooks. In this manner he rebuilt four yards of the steeple, and replaced the vane and cock.

The celerity with which the man placed the ladders was remarkable. He began to affix the first at eleven in the morning, and brought the vane down in triumph by two in the afternoon. The bells were then set a-ringing, the congregation of people became very great, and Wooton reascended the spire, to exhibit his daring. He extended himself on its summit, only thirteen inches in diameter, and spread out his arms and legs. He afterwards balanced himself on the uppermost stave of the top ladder, and for a quarter of an hour capered about in every imaginable posture, the admiring crowd beneath expecting momentarily to witness his descent in a manner much less agreeable than precipitate. Subsequently, when his undertaking was accomplished, to excite admiration and obtain money, he again balanced himself on the apex of the spire, beat a drum, and drank a bottle of ale in the sight of thousands of people, on a market-day ; but the reprobation of the man's temerity so far preponderated over public approval

as in a considerable degree to diminish his expected reward. 1789
Wooton died in Nottingham Gaol, May, 1804, when confined for debt.

March 19.—The recovery of George III, from the mental malady that had for a short period overthrown his reason, was celebrated in Nottingham in the following manner:—The morning was ushered in by the ringing of the bells at both churches, continued at intervals during the day; and towards noon, large fires were made in various parts of the town, and upwards of twenty sheep publicly roasted. The record proceeds, "Ordinaries were provided at Blackmoor's Head, White Lion, and many other public inns, at which places great numbers of gentlemen and tradesmen resorted, to congratulate each other on the auspicious occasion. After dinner the militia sergeants, corporals, and drums were all drawn up before the White Lion, and fired three excellent volleys; when the company within, and the company without, joined in huzzaing 'Long live the King;' after which the sergeant-major, who gave the word of command, was desired to walk up in the dining-room, when Captain Charlton, who is an officer in the said regiment, gave him a guinea to entertain his men, and another guinea was given by the company; after which three more volleys were fired. Several volleys were also fired by the above party in other parts of the town. The town began to be lighted at seven o'clock, and continued extremely beautiful, and beyond description, till after ten. We never remember since the coronation of their present Majesties, such an universal spirit of unanimity as prevailed among all ranks of people, in expressing their joy at his Majesty's happy recovery; for not only all the public streets, but every alley and lane was likewise illuminated. To express every particular would be impossible; suffice it to say that nothing so grand and magnificent ever took place here in the memory of man; not a house but what displayed the greatest marks of loyalty imaginable, by their profusion of lights, &c., and even the prisons were not backward in testifying their loyalty. Half a million of candles, exclusive of lamps, &c., being at a moderate computation supposed to be lighted up.* The crowds in every street, passing and repassing, to see the beauty of the town, those who are well acquainted with London would fancy themselves in the metropolis."

The festivities were not confined to the town. Five sheep were roasted at Arnold, and ale was freely distributed, the gift of W. C. Sherbrooke, Esq., and other gentlemen. The bells rang, a number of men paraded the village with fire-arms, giving an occasional volley, and attended by a band of music and a flag on which was a representation of the recovered monarch, and the motto, "God save the King," and in the evening there was a general

* The only exceptions were the houses occupied by the members of the Society of Friends, whose peculiar opinions lead them to abstain from joining in public festivities. On this occasion, their motives were so far respected by the populace, that not a pane of their windows was broken.

1789 illumination. At Lenton, there were bonfires, sheep roasting, a band of music, a grand public entertainment at the Coffee-house, hogsheads of ale, and a brilliant illumination. Similar rejoicings were witnessed at Basford. The sheep roasting was in the centre of the village, and the place where the mutton was washed down was the Grey Horse. The illumination was very effective: the houses ranging on the side of the hill made it singularly conspicuous.

April 4.—The remains of the Duke of Leeds passed through the town in grand funeral procession, *en route* for Kiveton, near Rotherham, the family burial place. The corpse remained at the Blackmoor's Head several hours, and one conspicuous object in the procession was a silk flag, twelve yards in length, with the Duke's arms worked thereon, and the family motto, "*Pax in Bello.*"

April 21.—This being the day appointed by the King's proclamation for a general thanksgiving on account of his happy recovery, the Mayor and Corporation attended divine service at St. Mary's, in full ceremony. They were preceded by a band of music, and a couple of flags that formerly belonged to the local regiment of Blues raised in the Rebellion of 1746. The bells were rung, the shops closed, and a handsome flag hoisted above the Weekday Cross.

May 27.—Mr. Richard Bonnington, jun., appointed his father's successor in the governorship of the County Gaol.

August 27.—Grand performance of *The Messiah*, in St. Mary's church, for the benefit of the General Hospital. More than one hundred performers engaged in it, including the first talent of the day. The principal vocalists were, Mademoiselle Cantelo, Mrs. Billington, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Sale, and Mr. Pearson. The attendance was very numerous, and included Lord Middleton, Lord Edward Bentinck, M.P., C. Pierrepont, Esq., M.P., the Hon. Henry Sedley, Roger Pocklington, Esq., and many of the neighbouring gentry. In connection with this performance was a three days musical festival, which enlivened the town, and left a handsome balance for the charity.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Wm. Smith elected Mayor.

December 8.—Several pennies of Edward the Confessor were dug up near the Forest, on the north side of the town, in good preservation. One of them, a great curiosity, was of the Nottingham mint.

The Town Gaol was rased to the ground this year, preparatory to the erection of the incommodious and ill-ventilated structure lately abandoned. The Rev. Gilbert Wakefield and a number of gentlemen made a resolute but unsuccessful opposition to the re-erection of a gaol on a site so confined and objectionable: but the Mayor and Common Hall persevered in their intention. Messrs. S. Stretton and Son, architects, furnished the plan.

1790.

January 28.—Mr. Chambre made an application to the Court of King's Bench, at the instance of the Junior Council, for an information in the nature of a *quo warranto* against William Smith, Esq., to shew by what authority he exercised the office of Mayor of this town, he not having taken the sacrament, pursuant to the provisions of the Test and Corporation Acts. The application was granted. 1790

February 16.—In compliance with a numerously signed requisition, the Duke of Newcastle, as Lord Lieutenant of the county, convened a public county meeting at the Moot Hall, Mansfield, "to take into consideration the very bold and dangerous attempts made of late to endeavour to carry into execution the repeal of the Corporation and Test Acts, the great bulwark of our safety and happiness, both in Church and State." The meeting was numerous. The Hon. H. Sedley, presided, and John Gally Knight, Esq., and a number of clergymen, were the speakers. A petition to Parliament was unanimously agreed upon.

March 15.—Samuel Martin, aged 21, and Anthony Farnsworth, aged 17, received sentence of death, at the Town Hall, from the lips of Mr. Baron Thomson, for robbing the warehouse of Messrs. John Heard and Co., hosiers, Coalpit-lane. This they accomplished on the 27th of the previous November, taking a quantity of hosiery goods and wearing apparel. They were executed on the 24th.

March 23.—Died, of a sudden attack of apoplexy, aged 62 years, at his house in Fletcher-gate, Robert Seagrave, Gent., an eminent lawyer, and Town Clerk of Nottingham, in which office he succeeded his father in 1758. His integrity and affability made the bereavement a subject of general regret. Mr. Seagrave's remains were deposited with those of his family in the body of St. Mary's church. The funeral was attended by the Mayor and five Aldermen, in full mourning, the two town Sergeants, in their gold-laced cloaks, closing the procession. Richard Enfield, Gent., brother of the late Henry Enfield, Gent., and uncle of William Enfield, Gent., the late respected Town Clerk, was appointed Mr. Seagrave's successor. Mr. Enfield was the son of the Rev. Dr. Enfield, of Norwich, for many years the beloved and gifted pastor of the Presbyterian church in that city, whose literary works, both as a scholar and a divine, are still held in high public estimation.

April 23.—Death of Thomas Spibie, Gent., one of the Coroners and a Common Councilman, aged 82 years.

April 23.—The Corporation assembled at the Town Hall, and received the resignation of Wm. Smith, Esq., Mayor, owing to his disqualification under the provisions of the Test and Cor-

1790 poration Acts, the House of Commons having negatived Mr. Fox's motion for their repeal. Mr. Alderman Butler was nominated his successor for the remainder of the year.

At a meeting of the Town Council, in August, 1838, Mr. Bailey moved that the survivors of the individuals (fifty-four in number) admitted into the freedom of the town during the Mayoralty of Mr. Smith, part of whom only had gone through a second enrolment, should receive burgess parts in the order of their original entrance. The Town Clerk (H. Enfield, Esq.,) said he remembered the circumstance of Mr. Smith giving up his gown rather than qualify by taking the sacrament, and he had a perfect recollection of the venerable Mr. Walker saying to him at the time, "You will live to see those laws repealed." But, as Town Clerk, he must tell the Council, plainly and distinctly, that the claimants of 1789-90 were illegally sworn, and could not be considered burgesses at that time. It appearing improbable, however, that any of those not re-sworn were living, Mr. Bailey's proposition was adopted.

● *May 26.*—Agreeably to a writ of *mandamus*, issued from the Court of King's Bench, the Corporation and a number of burgesses, met at the Exchange Hall, to elect a Mayor. Mr. Alderman Howitt opened the business. Mr. T. Frost and Mr. J. Morris, of the anti-Corporate party, requested that the writ might be read, and the Town Clerk having complied, they then demanded a poll, in the name of all the burgesses of the town. Mr. Howitt, in resisting the application, said that "the election of a Mayor was confined to the Livery only," but at length, after much altercation, consented that six of the burgesses should be admitted, to give in their claim, providing they behaved peaceably. Several hundred burgesses were then at the doors below, awaiting the decision, and in their impatience pressing closely up, the doors suddenly gave way, and notwithstanding all entreaties to the contrary, the hall was filled in two minutes. No sooner was the hurry over in taking their places, than they all simultaneously demanded a voice in the election of Mayor, but were informed that their claim could not be admitted. Mr. Alderman Richard Butler was then elected by the Clothing. The burgesses, however, nominated Mr. Alderman Huthwaite, and though this gentleman declared he would not stand, and firmly reiterated his determination, they persisted, saying, "I poll for Mr. Alderman Huthwaite, &c., the Court of King's Bench shall determine whether you shall stand or not." In this stage of the business, Mr. John Wheatley got up, and asked his brother burgesses if he should read to them the Charter of King Henry VI., and having read it, said, "You see, brother burgesses, how exactly the *mandamus* corresponds with the Charter." Richard Butler, Esq., then took the oaths, and was duly proclaimed, and the burgesses withdrew.

May 27.—In taking down some ancient houses opposite the House of Correction, sold by the Corporation, the workmen found

in the thatch above half-a-peck of silver coins, consisting of half-crowns and shillings of the reigns of Elizabeth and Charles I. Many of them were very fresh, and the leather bag in which they were found fell to pieces on exposure to the air. 1790

June 18.—An election, consequent on the dissolution of Parliament. The candidates were, Robert Smith, Esq. (Whig), D. P. Coke, Esq. (Tory), and Captain William Johnston, belonging to a regiment of foot. Captain Johnston was placed in nomination by the Tory, or White Lion Club, so called from its being held at that inn, more for the purpose of running Mr. Smith to expense than from any prospect of success. This election was attended by a riot. Between nine and ten o'clock on the morning it opened, a number of men and boys assembled in the Market-place, and proceeded very deliberately to break the windows of Mr. Smith's house. But by the prompt exertions of the magistracy, the distribution of cautionary placards, and a considerable addition to the number of constables, the riotous symptoms were for a time suppressed.

At the close of the poll, which continued seven days, the numbers were, according to the official return :—

For Robert Smith, Esq.	...	...	453
D. P. Coke, Esq.	...	...	415
Captain Johnston	...	...	238

Popular indignation at the result immediately burst forth. Windows were smashed, property destroyed, and persons grossly insulted ; and the civil force being unable to make an impression, the rioters had it all their own way. Very different, however, was the reception they met with when they renewed their disturbances the next morning. Two detachments of light and heavy dragoons had been sent for, and when irritated, the soldiers deliberately fired, and one man was killed on the spot and several severely wounded. The mob at once dispersed in the most precipitate manner. In the evening of the same day, the disturbers, in some measure regaining their courage, reappeared in the field, but the Riot Act being read, the military drawn out, and a number of the ringleaders apprehended, discretion was thought to be the better part of valour, and peace was fully restored. The dragoons, however, remained upon duty till three the next morning. The name of the man who was shot was ascertained to be Marshall, and his age 42 years. The Coroner's jury, at St. Mary's poorhouse, returned a verdict of justifiable homicide. At a Common Hall, the following Wednesday, the Corporation presented the officers who commanded the troops with the freedom of the town. Ten guineas were also voted to the privates, accompanied by a similar gratuity from Robert Smith, Esq., and another gentleman.

September 22.—The governors and friends of the General Hospital dined together at Thurland Hall. The Duke of Portland, Lord Middleton, the Marquis of Tichfield, Lord Ed. Bentinck, M.P.,

- 1790 Charles Pierrepont, Esq., M.P., R. Smith, Esq., M.P., D. P. Coke, Esq., M.P., the Hon. H. Sedley, the Right Hon. Frederick Montagu, Roger Pocklington, Esq., Major Rooke, Sir Rd. Sutton, Bart., M.P., John Gally Knight, Esq., M.P., the Rev. W. Bingham, A.M., Archdeacon of London, and the Mayor and Aldermen, were amongst the company.

September 29.—Mr. Ald. Fellows entered a third time upon the office of Mayor.

October 22.—The principal inhabitant householders had viewed with great apprehension, for several years, a rapid increase of houses under ten pounds per annum rental. To check what they termed a growing evil, the new householders being mostly strangers from a distance, the overseers had refused to rate the said houses, under the idea of preventing their occupants having a claim upon the poor rates by becoming parishioners, and thus in time adding greatly to the local burdens. This exemption from rates naturally fed the practice it was intended to suppress, and difficulties arising, a vestry meeting was held this day at St. Mary's. It was stated by the overseers that the maintenance of the poor amounted to nearly £3,000 per year, though in 1771 it did but amount to £1,500. It was agreed to petition Parliament for an Act to compel the owners of all houses under ten pounds to pay the assessments upon their property, with a proviso that no person living in any such house should gain a settlement thereby. It is scarcely necessary to add, the Legislature withheld its sanction from the impracticable and short-sighted proposition.

The increase of poor rates in Nottingham has been more than proportionate with the increase of population. In 1764, St. Mary's assessments amounted to £480; in 1792, to £3,657; in 1797, to £5,457; in 1802, to £11,050; in 1804, to £15,382; in 1808, to £18,499; in 1812, to £24,763; in 1831, to £21,493; in 1842, to £23,803; in 1849, to £19,837; in 1858, to £15,517; in 1868, to £35,293; in 1877, to £41,881.

October 25.—Two troops of the Royal Regiment of Horse Guards Blue arrived in Nottingham, having been sent for from Peterborough, in anticipation of a framework knitters' riot, the hosiers having reduced their wages. In the evening, many of the workmen assembled in the Market-place, and after huzzaing, went in a body to several parts of the town, breaking windows, dismantling frames, and compelling others to quit their work. The military were called out, and patrolled the streets to a late hour.

The next day (Tuesday), several hundreds of the hands from the adjacent villages poured into the town to reinforce their brethren in tribulation, but found the authorities fully prepared for them. The trumpets sounded to arms, and in a few seconds the soldiers were drawn up in the Market-place. The Mayor then came up, and the military, by word of command, encircled him. His worship read the Riot Act, and coming out of the

circle ordered the people to disperse. They very reluctantly obeyed. Proclamations, signed by the Mayor, were then circulated from door to door, in which all housekeepers were strictly charged to keep in their servants and apprentices after six in the evening, and every precautionary measure adopted. The discontented, however, reassembled in great numbers, and pursued their favourite pastime of breaking windows. In clearing the streets of them the military apprehended thirty-seven and lodged them in prison. Several more were apprehended on Wednesday, and Captain Jefferson received a wound on the back of his head by a glass bottle being thrown at him. Beyond this and the breaking of a few windows nothing arose to disturb the public tranquility.

December 1.—The Peverel Court was held at the Coffee-house, Lenton, the first time, having for nearly a century previous been held at Basford.

December 10.—Death of John Davison, M.D., aged 78 years, during fifty of which he had practised physic in this town, with credit to himself and advantage to the public.

December 24.—The greatest flood known near Nottingham for many years. A man named Samuel Marshall of Broad-marsh, unfortunately lost his life in it. He was sent to extricate some sheep in "Holme grounds," and when he arrived near Lady-bay bridge, he could no longer discern the road, the water having completely covered all traces of it. Pressing, on however, with his horse and cart, he perished. The horse was found drowned, standing in the shafts; but the body of Marshall was not recovered for several days.

1791.

February 11.—The publicans of the town, according to previous notice by public advertisement, raised the price of ale to fivepence per quart. 1791

February 20.—Mr. Willimott, of Sutton-upon-Trent, having sent a boat up the river, laden with one hundred quarters of wheat, unfortunately met with a great loss. As the boatmen were making preparations to go through one of the arches of the Nottingham bridge, after fastening the rope to the windlass, and shifting their sails, to prevent them dropping into the water, the north-east wind blew so strongly that one side of the vessel dipped below the surface, and caused her to capsize. As she lay bottom uppermost, the bed of the river received all the cargo.

February 23.—John Plumptre, Esq., of Plumptre House, died at his London residence, Jermyn-street, Westminster, in his 80th year. He was the son of John Plumptre, Esq., by Annabella, eldest daughter of Sir Francis Molyneux, Bart., of Teversal. His remains were deposited in the family vault at St. Mary's. The Plumptre family, up to this date, had been residents in the town from the time of Edward I., and the deceased gentleman

1791 and his father had been its representatives in several successive Parliaments. The old family mansion in Stoney-street was demolished in 1860.

March 6.—Death of Richard Butler, Esq., at his house on the Long-row. He was 66 years of age, and the senior Alderman of the Corporation.

March 10.—At the town assizes, before Sir Nash Grose, Knt., an action was brought on the part of the burgesses, against Mr. Samuel Rose, and another against Mr. Joseph Osborne, "for encroachments, by erecting houses on lands over which was a right of common, in housekeepers and burgesses, from the 12th of August to the 12th of November." The contemporary record states further, "These two suits being commenced to claim and establish the right of common, and restrain encroachments; and the defendants having built before the question of right had been legally settled, are to remain unmolested in the enjoyment of their present buildings: and verdicts were given for the plaintiff, with one penny damages; so that all future buildings on the Lammis land will be considered encroachments, and the trespassers open to the law."

At the county assizes, the succeeding day, a baronet of this county whose name was suppressed, was, after a trial of twelve hours, found guilty of an attempt to commit an unnatural crime, and sentenced to two years imprisonment.

June 23.—A private in the King's Light Regiment of Dragoons, who was quartered at the Bear inn,* on the Long-row, was drawing a bucket of water at the well in the yard, and taking hold of it at the top carelessly, he was over balanced, and fell to the bottom. Though the depth of the well was twenty-six yards, the man was rescued without any serious injury. This, in common with all the wells that in former days were very numerous and essentially serviceable, in all parts of the town, has long been covered over and abandoned. Their great depth and consequent expense in maintaining the pumps, and the labour of pumping, made their owners glad to accept of a substitute from the Trent Water Works Company.

August 4.—Death of the Rev. Richard Plumbe, pastor of the Independent church worshipping in Castle-gate. He was an accomplished classical scholar, and of very peaceable and unassuming demeanour.

August 29, 30.—A grand cricket match for a thousand guineas was played in the Meadows, between the gentlemen of the Marylebone Club and eleven players of Nottingham. The origin of the match may be traced to Col. Churchill, who happened to be quartered here with his regiment, and was struck with the superior activity of the Nottingham cricketers. The Colonel's challenge being accepted, eleven of the club, including the Earl of

* The Old Bear inn was an old-fashioned building, standing on the site now occupied by Messrs. Foster and Cooper.

Winchelsea, Lieut.-Col. Lennox, Lord W. Bentinck, the Hon. E. Bligh, and other distinguished persons, came to Nottingham to play. A large piece of ground in the "Upper Meadow" was corded round for their reception, and booths being erected, and both days remarkably fine, it was computed that more than ten thousand persons were present. The Nottingham eleven were, W. Barker, W. Dexter, W. Chapman, S. Hedderley, E. Stephenson, J. Gilbert, S. Willows, W. Warsop, S. Muglestone, H. Hopkins, and J. Stephenson. Marylebone went in first, and scored 125. Nottingham scored in their first innings, 63, and in their second, 62, leaving their opponents only one run to get in their second innings to win.

At the close of the match, another was made, Twenty-two of Nottingham v. Eleven of Marylebone. The players were the same as before, with the addition of the following on the side of our townsmen, viz., Col. Churchill, J. Caunt, J. Woodward, Harley, Hewett, S. Morley, Wardley, S. Warsop, R. Warsop, T. Warsop, and R. Muglestone. The result was as follows:—

<i>First Innings.</i>			
Marylebone	... 98	| Nottingham	... 107
<i>Second Innings.</i>			
Marylebone	... 96	| Nottingham	... 74

Marylebone thus winning, with 13 runs to spare.

The skill of the Nottingham players excited the admiration and applause of their opponents; but as the system of playing adopted by the latter was then quite new and unknown in the midland counties, successful competition was impossible.

September 2.—Death of Mr. John Keetley, at Lenton. He was so corpulent, that at his burial on the 4th, it was with difficulty eleven men carried his remains to the grave. The coffin measured over the shoulders two feet ten inches, and was twenty inches in depth.

Blackner records a riot in the autumn of this year, "which would scarcely been worth notice had it not been for the whimsicality of the result. Some measure being about to be adopted by the principal hosiers inimical to the two-needle stocking-makers, about two hundred of them met in the town at an appointed time, from the neighbouring villages, some coming twelve or fifteen miles. When they were assembled in the Market-place, deputies were chosen to form a committee, and a party, consisting of four or five, was sent to wait upon Mr. Mark Huish, in St. James's-street, he being considered the leader and director amongst the hosiers. This circumstance drew many of the countrymen to the outside of his house and warehouse, in the hope of hearing 'glad tidings' announced from his door; but this conduct Mr. Huish placed to a riotous and intimidating account, and accordingly applied to the Mayor for military protection. At this time a part, if not the whole, of the regiment then universally known by the appellation of Troopers or Oxford Blues, lay here; a party of

- 1791 which was accordingly sent to protect Mr. Huish's person and property, a post which these lubberly heroes of the trencher seemed very proud of. After their arrival, the conference between Mr. Huish and the stocking-makers was soon ended, to the dissatisfaction of the latter; and while one of the persons who had waited upon Mr. Huish was detailing the nature and result of the conference to his fellow workmen that listened to him from the steps of the Malt Cross, a party of the Blues assailed the people, thus assembled, with drawn swords, and rode over the steps of the Cross, the Riot Act having been previously read.

"This circumstance, though no doubt intended to prevent a riot, was the cause of immediately creating one; for, though the countrymen were dispersed, they were joined in every direction by groups of townsmen, who ran towards the scene of action from curiosity; and shouting and derision were heard on every side. Night closed in with settled darkness, the lamps were lighted, the Troopers dashed about well armed, irritation increased on both sides, the lamps in Chapel-bar were all broken, the heroes were assailed with a shower of stones; and, pursuing their flying assailants up Chapel-bar, they found themselves most unexpectedly arrested in their progress of victory by a waggon placed at the top of that street.* Suffice it further to say, that a few heads and windows were broken; and that the Troopers ensured to themselves the hatred and contempt of the working men, both of the town and county, the consequence of which they felt most severely during the winter, for it was customary to see them with their faces as dark coloured as their coats. At length an order came for their removal; and, as their time of going became known, and as they had to go down Hollow-stone, which was then very narrow, the people planted themselves on the top of the rock, well provided with night soil in vessels, from the privies, with which they plentifully supplied the Troopers as they passed below."

September 28.—Mr. William Wells, of the Long-row, elected to the Coronership vacant by the resignation of Mr. George Dodson.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Huthwaite elected Mayor a third time.

October 25.—His Grace the Archbishop of York consecrated the new burial-ground of St. Nicholas's parish.

October.—The bell now in the tower of St. Nicholas's church was cast at this date, by Mr. Hedderley, an eminent bellfounder of the town, for the use of a cotton mill in Broad-marsh.

November.—Death of Mr. John Pearson, an eminent mathematician and schoolmaster of this town, and many years editor of Poor Robin's Almanack, the most popular of the day. He was 62 years of age. It is said of him, so prolific was his fund of satire, that few gentlemen of the town or neighbourhood escaped his barbed shafts; and though his enemies were consequently

* Chapel-bar was much narrower than at the present day.

numerous, his company was always courted by men of letters : it could seldom however be obtained without a handsome sacrifice at the shrine of Bacchus. When the additional burying-ground of St. Nicholas's was consecrated, he was heard to say, "It is not unlikely that my body may be the first corpse interred here," and though then in his usual health, the supposition was verified by the fact.

December 7.—The melancholy tidings reached Nottingham, of the death of Richard Enfield, Gent., Town Clerk. A fever, contracted during a visit to London, extinguished life very rapidly. He died in Broad-street buildings, Moorfields.

December 18.—Death of Mr. Alderman John Fellows, at his house on the High-pavement, in his 64th year. He was a gentleman of great integrity and moral worth, and was formerly in the silk manufacture, which he and his father had carried on in the town upwards of seventy years. His remains were deposited in the family vault in St. Mary's churchyard.

The old elm trees in the Market-place were cut down this year.

December 27.—Died, in Collin's Hospital, aged 92 years, Mr. John Gunthorpe. He was the oldest burgess in the town, and was universally known by the name of "True Blue," having invariably voted in the Tory interest.

December 30.—At a Common Hall, the Rev. Dr. Enfield, of Norwich, was presented with the freedom of the Corporation. At the same time, George Coldham, Gent., of Broad-street, Moorfields, London, received the same honour, and was immediately afterwards appointed Town Clerk.

Dr. Enfield was born at Sudbury, in 1741 ; and after filling the situation of resident tutor and lecturer on the *belles lettres* at Warrington academy, and enriching our national literature, he died in 1797. He was one of the principal contributors to Dr. Aikin's Biographical Dictionary ; and is known as the author or compiler of several useful works, viz., *The Speaker, Exercises on Elocution, Natural Philosophy, &c.*

Two public characters in humble life, "Shelford Tommy," the ventriloquist, and "Whistling Charley," the street musician, appear to have been now at the zenith of their popularity.

James Burne, the former of these, was, as his popular cognomen indicated, a native of Shelford ; and although a "bird of passage," was more frequently in Nottingham than anywhere else. His ventriloquial capabilities were in a great measure his means of gaining a living. Throsby, a contemporary writer, has left us the following description of his peculiarities and sayings :—"He carries in his pocket an ill-shaped doll, with a broad face, which he exhibits at public-houses, on fair days, race days, market days, &c., as giving utterance to his own childish jargon. The gazing crowd, who gather round him to see this wooden baby, and hear, as it appears, its speeches, are often deceived ; nothing but

- 1791 the movement of the ventriloquist's lips, which he endeavours to conceal, can lead to the detection. I will notice one or two of his exploits in this way. Tommy was one day at the Weekday Cross, at Nottingham, and there so much surprised a country girl, in a frolicsome moment, by her hearing, as she thought, a child speak to her and seeing none, that her astonishment was wrought up to such a pitch as to bring on a succession of fainting fits, by which the poor girl suffered for some time. This wanton exercise of his talent got Tommy a lodging for a little while in Bridewell, by the order of the magistrates. Another of his jokes, but of a less serious nature, is told thus: Tommy, following a carrier's waggon, on a certain day, imitated at times the crying of a child so naturally, that the waggoner stopped his horses several times on the road to examine the waggon, conceiving that the cries of the child came from within his carriage; but on examining the straw at the tail of the waggon he could discover no child, and consequently proceeded on his journey, the wily ventriloquist at his side. A little before the waggon entered the next village upon the road, Tommy repeated the crying of a child so effectually that the driver, fearing that he might be accessory to the death of an infant, was determined to unload his waggon at the village, which, by the help of some people to whom he had told his story, he effected; but found therein no child, living or dead. Tommy, we are told, assisted in this search, and doubtless secretly enjoyed the joke, for which, had it been found out, he would most likely have got a severe thrashing. Our ventriloquist was at another time in the house of a stranger to his extraordinary powers, where a servant girl in the kitchen was about to dress some fish, not long taken from the river, but apparently dead. When she was about to cut off the head of one of them, Tommy, at the instant she laid her knife on the fish's neck, uttered, in a plaintive voice, 'Don't cut my head off!' The girl upon this, being much alarmed and knowing not whence the voice proceeded, hastily drew the knife from the little fish, and stood for some time in motionless amazement. At length, however, recovering herself and not seeing the fish stir, she had courage to proceed to her business, and took up the knife a second time to sever the head of the fish from the body. Tommy, at that moment, uttered rather sharply, but mournfully, 'What, you will cut my head off!' upon which the frightened female threw down the knife on the floor, and positively refused to dress the fish. The man appears to be about the middle age of life."

Throsby then proceeds with a description of "Charley," the other character, stating as subjoined:—"The Street Musician, which I have classed as a companion to the Ventriloquist, was born in the parish of Clifton, near Nottingham, at a place called Glapton. He is now nearly seventy years of age, and is known generally by the name of Charley. This very singular character is often the sport of boys and booby men; but perhaps under the

influence of their sneers, he, like many a knowing one, might say, 'let them laugh that win.' It is not material to our purpose to know of whom he was born, or how trained up into his present way of existence. This, however, is known of him to a certainty, that by his cunning, or by his folly, in putting on such a variety of dress as he is generally seen in, blending the trappings of the great, the array of a soldier, and the clothing of a beggar, which he varies at his pleasure, he draws from the pocket of the compassionate, for he is deformed and a cripple, an existence for which his nature seems perfectly adapted. Every day, although now enfeebled by years, you find him perambulating the streets of Nottingham to catch game. The brown jug, the tankard, or cash are alike to him the objects of his travel. Sometimes the lute, at others his little horn, attract the notice of the stranger, or the boys, his almost constant attendants. His meagre figure, decrepit form, and in a fantastic dress, paddling along the streets in all seasons of the year, often supply his pecuniary wants; equally so do the playful indiscretions of the boys make him an object of the stranger's bounty."

1791

1792.

February 25.—Between the hours of eight and nine this evening, an alarming shock of an earthquake was felt in the Midland counties, but particularly at Nottingham, many of the inhabitants running out of their houses, expecting them to fall upon their heads. The shock was preceded by a rumbling noise, like the rolling of a cannon ball upon a boarded floor.

1792

May 9.—On the arrival of the intelligence that the bill authorising the formation of the Nottingham Canal had received the royal assent, the bells of both churches were set a-ringing, and other congratulatory manifestations indulged in.

May 12.—A number of people assembled in a riotous manner in the Market-place, on account of the high price of butchers' meat. After a stout endeavour to retain possession of their property, when further resistance might have proved dangerous, the butchers retreated from the Shambles, and left the mob in undisturbed possession. It being Saturday, the stock of meat was large, and in a few moments the whole of it disappeared. The magistrates at once called out the military, and by the expostulations of the Mayor, and the firing of the soldiers in the air, the mob dispersed, and the military returned to their quarters. Very unexpectedly, in the course of the evening the depredators reassembled, and bearing down upon the Shambles with renewed force, destroyed and conveyed away every door, shutter, implement, and book they could find in the shops, and made a great bonfire of them in the Market-place, yelling and shouting round it like

1792 savages. The fire was burning from eleven at night till one in the morning, when the military succeeded in extinguishing it, and tranquility was restored. For several days after, symptoms of a recurrence of the disorder were apparent, but the vigilance of the authorities at length finally suppressed them.

June 1.—Death of John Carruthers, Gent., Alderman, aged 76 years.

June 18.—Messrs. Launder, Frost, Morris, Story, Hardwicke, Hadden, and other gentlemen of the Blue party, having addressed a requisition to the Mayor, that a public meeting might be called to address the King, in response to a royal proclamation, and his worship having refused to do so, the requisitionists summoned one themselves. The Assembly Room, Low-pavement, was accordingly filled this day with their political associates, and an address was unanimously agreed upon. The tenor of it will be apparent from the following extract:—"Being convinced of the great danger there is in publishing seditious writings, to inflame and unsettle the minds of your Majesty's subjects, and alienate them from our present happy constitution in Church and State (a constitution, the admiration and envy of surrounding nations), we cannot but heartily express our abhorrence of such principles, and will to the utmost of our power aid your Majesty's gracious endeavours to suppress such wicked and seditious writings." It was subsequently signed by five hundred of the principal inhabitants, and duly presented.

July 8.—The cotton mill in Broad-marsh, occupied by Messrs. Killingley and Green, was discovered to be on fire. Timely assistance, the use of the engines, and plenty of water, checked the ravages of the flames ere any very great damage had been inflicted. In forcing his way through the roof one man unfortunately broke his leg.

July 30.—Cutting of the first sod of the Nottingham Canal.

August 21.—The first stone of the Barracks in the Park was laid by the commanding officer of the 7th Light Dragoons, then stationed here. By no class of his Majesty's subjects was the erection of the Barracks hailed with more satisfaction, than by the innkeepers and victuallers: these tradesmen had suffered severely, time immemorial, from the number of troopers almost continually quartered at their houses.

September 29.—Mr. Ald. Joseph Oldknow elected Mayor.

December.—An incendiary letter was sent to Mrs. Carter, of the Sun inn, in Pelham-street, the principal resort of the democrats of the day, who, from their sympathy with the promoters of the French Revolution, were stigmatised by the opposite party as Jacobins, threatening to burn her house, &c., if she continued to entertain them. This threat, never perhaps seriously intended, failed in inducing the landlady to cease her dealings with democracy, and it is only noticed here as indicative of the very unhappy and deplorable state of public feeling prevalent in the town for

many months. In noticing in succeeding pages the sad events which arose from it, the strictest impartiality will be studied. 1792

Blackner, who, it must be remembered, was a democrat, writes thus, in allusion to this period:—"The blaze of opinion, which sprung from the American and French Revolutions had made a great alteration in the political dispositions of the people of England, and nowhere more so than in Nottingham. The town was divided into two hostile parties, under the appellations of democrats and aristocrats; the former considering delegated authority as the only legal power, and titles of nobility as so many excrescences upon the body politic which ought to be cut off; while the latter abandoned their rights as brother members of a community, and made unconditional submission to the will of the king, the nobility, and clergy the controlling article of their faith. Patriotism, in the natural acceptation of the word, became extinct for a time; for the democrats prayed for the overthrow of the arms of royalty wherever they might be engaged, or to whatever kingdom or empire they might belong; and the aristocrats prayed for the destruction of the friends of democracy, without ever considering the cause in which they were engaged. Both parties were guilty of treason against the English constitution, as far as intention can constitute treason; the one against the liberties of the people, and the others against the aristocracy and the Crown. But however much at variance were the principles of these parties, their local practice was equally so; for while the democrats sought by every persuasive means and by the circulation of political pamphlets* to gain proselytes (in which they were very successful), their opponents became proportionately angry and revengeful." Making allowance for the spirit of partizanship displayed by its author, the extract may serve to throw light upon the incentives to various acts that will be described at subsequent dates.

An extraordinary occurrence is stated by Throsby to have happened this year in St. Mary's churchyard. It was found necessary to improve the passage by the side of the yard leading towards the County Hall, which could not be effected without taking down some houses and the churchyard wall, which stood on the south side of the sacred edifice; and the better to widen the road, it was also necessary to use a part of the churchyard. The ground being much higher there than the street, when the fence wall was removed, there happened one night, a heavy shower of rain, which washed away a considerable portion of the earth from the churchyard. In consequence of this, several coffins were left almost destitute of covering, and two or three of them were removed. Amongst these was one that contained the remains of Mr. Wm. Moore, for some years landlord of the Black Swan public-house, situated near the church, who had been dead about twelve years. The coffin being broken, there was observed in his remains a concretion not unlike a pumice stone, but rather whiter, and as

* Doubtless referred to in the local Address to the King.

1792 large as the liver of an ox, pieces of which, at the time Throsby wrote, were in the possession of several townsmen. Mr. Moore, it was remembered, was a remarkable man for having a large belly, which projected more on one side than the other. He had often observed to his friends, that he perceived a hard substance beginning to form within him when only 22 years of age, and this grew slowly up to the day of his death. He died about the age of 70. He had also been heard to say that it gave him but little pain, though he found it troublesome; and it is worthy of remark, that the ribs, on the side of the concretion, bowed very much outwardly. Doctors Hodges, Nevil, and Ford had examined him while living, several times, and he had promised that whoever of them survived him should have permission to open his body; but happening to survive them all, no *post mortem* examination was made. Nothing therefore but an accident could possibly have brought the concretion to light.

Basford inclosure was effected this year by a special Act of Parliament. The Duke of Newcastle, the Earl of Chesterfield, and other land owners, obtained by it large accessions to their property, but not a single acre of land was reserved for the use of the public, though nearly 1,500 acres had up to this time been enjoyed in common by all the inhabitants, either for profit or pleasure.

The Commissioners of Woods and Forests demanded a fortieth part of the value of the lands inclosed, and instituted a valuation, not only of Basford, but also of all the Forest lands lying within the bounds of Thorneywood. The return was as follows:—

In Basford township...	1,700 acres,	6s. per acre.
Gedling	750 acres,	7s.
Lenton and Radford...	200 acres,	5s.
Lambley	600 acres,	5s.
Woodborough	440 acres,	7s.
Sneinton	80 acres,	12s.

Thus was the nation defrauded of its claim on the inclosure, as well as the parish of its grounds for recreation. The Crown got just nine pounds sterling as one-fortieth share of the value of the land on which Mapperley-place, Sherwood, Carrington, and Cavendish villas now stand; while the other claimants received their proportions in solid acres. Up to this period the Forest lands, in their wild luxuriance, used to be visited in the summer season by great numbers of the merry-hearted tradesmen and mechanics of Nottingham, with their wives and sweethearts, in what were popularly known as "nutting parties." They took with them provisions and liquors for the day, and also a fiddler, to whose enlivening strains they danced till evening. These happy sports, which resembled in rural simplicity days of yore, were speedily brought to a close by the rapid march of inclosure.

The site now occupied by the Fishpond Gardens was till this

year covered by a lake or sheet of water, attached to the pleasure grounds of the Castle. It was partly filled up with the soil brought up from the foundation of the Barracks, and in 1794 the gardens were laid out for cultivation. 1792

1793.

January 12.—Mr. Coke, an eminent surgeon of this town, was riding near the Chain bridges, in the Meadows, and the waters being out, it was difficult to distinguish the road. Unhappily, his horse plunged into the excavation made for the intended canal, and he was drowned. 1793

February 9.—Declaration of war between England and France.

February 16.—The writings of the notorious Thomas Paine, his *Rights of Man* especially, of which many hundred copies had been sold in this neighbourhood, appear to have very much inflamed the popular mind against him, and it was common about this period to burn him in effigy. The *Journal*, which had now for the first time acquired a decided political bearing, furnishes the subjoined instance, the whole paragraph being copied exactly:—"On Tuesday last (Feb. 12), the infamous THOMAS PAINE (one of the rag-a-muffin Convention of Paris), was apprehended and lodged in the Peverel Gaol at Lenton, near this town; he was brought to Trial the same day, and after a fair and impartial examination (his crimes being so big with infamy, HE COULD NOT PLEAD!) he was found guilty of Treason against the KING who had formerly spared his Life, and against the Constitution of this country, in endeavouring, by his seditious writings, to overwhelm us in destruction, and our SOVEREIGN KING, whom all good Englishmen revere!—He was sentenced to be Hanged on the arm of a large tree, near the above Village, which was accordingly done, amidst a great concourse of people; he was left hanging on the tree a considerable time, after which the company retired to the Coffee House for refreshment; soon after, they were informed that a party of Paineites had laid a plan to convey the remains of their Champion away from the Tree, which the LOYALISTS being aware of, fell on, routed, and put to flight the whole GANG of them.—In the evening his body was cut down and burnt to ashes in a bonfire; after which, the major part of them retired to the Coffee House, where the company gave repeated toasts to the Health and Long Life of GEORGE the Third, our Gracious KING, QUEEN CHARLOTTE, the ROYAL FAMILY, LORD MIDDLETON, and many other Gentlemen in the neighbourhood." In some localities the effigy was adorned with a cabbage under one arm and an old pair of stay under the other,* and was whipped through the streets at a cart's tail.

* Paine was originally a staymaker, and it is said, in the course of his peregrinations, worked for a time as such, in Nottingham.

1793

March 4.—The Nottinghamshire Militia commenced their march from this town, where the regiment had been up for training, for Boston and Spalding, with colours streaming and music playing. They were attended out of town by an immense concourse of people, who joined them at intervals in loud huzzas.

March 10.—This evening (Sunday), on the arrival of news of successes over the French troops in Holland, general joy prevailed; bonfires were made in the Market-place and other parts of the town; the bells of all the churches were rung with vehemency, almost without intermission till ten the next evening; an effigy of "Monsieur Paine" was burnt amidst the acclamations of several thousand spectators—and, as "the noon of night" drew on, a large number paraded the streets, singing the National Anthem. The successes greeted with so much enthusiasm were subsequently found to be of little importance.

March 16.—At the assizes, this day, before Mr. Baron Thomson, William Healey, of Clayworth, near Retford, aged 22 years, received sentence of death for stealing a horse, the property of Edward Crosley, of Balne, in the county of York. The circumstances which led to the conviction of this young man were peculiar and distressing. He was an itinerant horsedealer, and was accustomed to call at a house in the North Clay, the landlord of which was a small farmer as well as publican. Healey represented himself as a man of some property, and gained the good graces of the landlord's daughter; but in order to obtain the father's consent it was necessary to produce some of the cattle of which he had boasted he was possessed. Accordingly, he went into Yorkshire, where his friends resided, and returned with a number of horses, which he said were his own. These were deemed sufficient, and the landlord gave him the hand of his daughter. The horses were turned into his father-in-law's grounds, and for a time everything went on pretty comfortably; but before the expiration of three months, the right owners laid claim to them, and at Healey's trial for stealing one of them, his wife's father bore evidence against him. Both father and daughter appear to have displayed a very vindictive spirit, for it was confidently thought that had they pleaded for him in the slightest degree, the young man's life would have been spared. Their malice was deadly and bitter. Healey was executed on the 27th. The pressure was uncommonly great, and the procession from the gaol to Gallows-hill took up nearly two hours. His body was taken to the County Hall, and then buried at St. Mary's.

June 24.—Mr. Francis Walsh, shoemaker, Long-row, died of a wound received on the evening of the King's birthday, inflicted by his own son. The young man had been indulging in the customary festivities, and unthinkingly discharged a pistol close to the shoulder of his parent, with a view of simply startling him by the report. The wadding was forced so far into the flesh that the surgeons could not extract it, and the sufferer expired after inexpressible agonies.

July 24.—A great number of persons of the Blue party assembled in the Market-place this evening, drawn together, it was understood, by a feeling of deep dissatisfaction at a number of Democrats, sympathisers with the French Revolution, being permitted to meet in the fields, and practice themselves in military manoeuvres. After parading the town and giving vent to many loyal huzzas and expressions of hostility to all Jacobins, they proceeded to acts of violence. The demolition of windows and property of disaffected persons went on at a fearful rate, until, late in the evening, the mob attacked the house of Mr. Oldknow, the Mayor.* His premises were assailed most ferociously with stones, brickbats, &c., and it was fully thought by the inmates that they would be rased to the ground. Mr. Oldknow, however, was a man of determined character; he remonstrated, but in vain; he told his assailants what they might expect as a consequence of their outrageous conduct, and in return they issued fresh volleys of abuse, and renewed showers of missiles. A blunderbuss loaded with powder only was then discharged from a window, intended as an intimation that firearms would be used if they did not disperse, but without avail; and very reluctantly it was thought necessary to resort to extremities. A second discharge from the blunderbuss, heavily charged with large shot, killed one young man and severely wounded five others, one of whom it was thought at first could not recover. The resolute defence so intimidated the assailants that they immediately withdrew. The magistrates issued handbills the next morning, in which they requested all housekeepers not to suffer their servants or apprentices to be in the streets after ten at night, and gave notice that any who assembled to the number of four after that hour would be taken into custody. This and other energetic measures restrained for a time the disposition to riot.

July 30.—The newly formed Canal, being made navigable up to the town from the Trent-bridge, was formally opened by the passage of three boats laden with stone, in the presence of many thousand spectators. The vessels and boatmen were very gaily decorated, and in the first was the engineer and the regimental band of the Light Horse. At the filling of the first lock the band played "Rule Britannia;" and on their way to the town, "Heart of Oak," "God save the King," and other loyal and martial airs. It happened that in the afternoon of the same day, news arrived of the taking of Mentz, and the popular festivity was greatly increased in consequence.

July 31.—The Hon. G. W. Egerton, Colonel of the regiment stationed at the Barracks, and Captains Walhouse, Carmichael, Campbell, and Covel, were presented with the freedom of the town, at the Guildhall, in testimony of the alacrity they had

* Mr. Oldknow was a grocer of large business, and his house was No. 17, Long-row West, the premises now occupied by Mr. Wigglesworth, Ironmonger. Mr. O. T. Oldknow late of the Post Office, was his son.

- 1793 shown in hastening to aid the Mayor in quelling the recent disturbance. They afterwards sat down with the Corporation to an elegant collation which the Mayor had provided at the Blackmoor's Head.

August 2.—Another great public rejoicing on the receipt of intelligence of the capture of Valenciennes. The local newspaper thus describes the enthusiasm :—"The whole town and neighbourhood exhibited the utmost marks of joy and hilarity; 'twas the rejoicings of Britons, on a prospect of a speedy* termination of a war which had threatened to involve in its horrid vortex the destruction of all Europe; and a joy more universal, more felt, or more expressive, never expanded the heart of man; the bells, blended with the exultations of the people, bore to the neighbouring villages the welcome news, and all was joy. Bonfires were lighted in many parts of the town, and loyal groups of men, women, and children, were seated in the streets, where the circling glass of British hospitality denounced extinction of French perfidy both at home and abroad; and such is the fascinating charm of patriotism, that even the rancorous heart of Jacobinism felt a pulse unknown before."

September 15.—This day (Sunday), as soon as the evening service at the churches was over, the bells were set a-ringing, on account of the arrival of news of the surrender of Toulon to the British forces. Bonfires were kindled, and general joy prevailed.

September 28.—The petty animosities existing at this period in private circles on account of political differences of opinion may be illustrated by the subjoined instance. An advertisement appears in the *Journal* of this date, the purport of which is that "A report having been industriously propagated, for a considerable time, purporting that Miss Crackle had said, at Mr. Patricius Goodall's (in conversation over cards), last winter, 'that she wished she had the King's head in her apron or lap,' the undersigned ladies, having been present the same evening, and being the whole of the party, do declare that Miss Crackle did not use any expression of the kind, nor one of similar import :—E. Goodall, E. Stephenson, Eliza Goodall, M. Evison, Ann Tupman, Ann Sheldon, and Mary Oldfield." The husband of the slandered lady (for it appears she had married in the interim), who was a highly respectable tradesman, then offers a reward of ten guineas for a discovery of the inventor of the report, and attaches his name to the document.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Henry Green elected Mayor. Mr. Green's residence was at the upper end of St. James's-street. It was an ancient building, and stood on the site now occupied by the mansion of T. Close, Esq. His political principles, which were originally in unison with those of the generality of the Corporation, underwent a decided change, induced doubtless by the excesses of the French Revolution. His business connections seem to

* So "speedy," that it continued about twenty years.

have been unfortunate : at first an opulent hosier, he soared yet higher and became a cotton spinner, but meeting with severe losses, descended to the condition of a brewer, and ultimately to poverty. 1793

September 30.—The Mayor's installation banquet at the "New 'Change," as it was termed, was distinguished by excessive displays of loyalty. Amongst the toasts were, "the King and Constitution," with three times three, "the Duke of York and the Army," "the Duke of Clarence and the Navy," &c. The Mayor himself sang the air, "God save the King," and his guests the chorus, followed by loud huzzas and Constitutional songs.

November 12.—The spirit of the times will be observed in the following circumstance. "One of the officers belonging to the Nottingham Regiment of Militia," states the *Journal*, "now lying at Spalding, went to a shoemaker's of that place to order a pair of boots, but on observing that detestable outcast of society's book, Paine's *Rights of Man*, lying on the table, he thought proper to countermand the order, and take the book along with him. Next day, the soldiers being under arms and forming a circle round a large bonfire, this knight of the lapstone was summoned to appear before them, and made to burn the celebrated jargon of nonsense, the music playing 'God save the King' during its burning, at the end of which the soldiers and inhabitants gave three loyal huzzas, and then this wonderful would-be wisacre, was suffered to depart."

The last attempt to collect small tithes in St. Nicholas's parish (of great tithes there being none) is related by Blackner to have taken place about this period. "The rector," he records, "said to one of the officers of the church, 'If you will inform me of any person who keeps sows in the parish, I will make it worth your while.' The person replied that he knew of but one, whom he named; and in a day or two he let him know that his sty would be honoured in a short time by a tithe-pig visitant. The owner of the pigs, however, determined to prevent the necessity of such a visit; and he accordingly took a young pig in his arms, and contrived to make it move the knocker of the rector's door, who, being informed of the nature of the visit, welcomed the squeaking guest into the house; but he never inquired for a tithe-pig any more."

Sir Richard Sutton, Bart., made a survey of the town this year, at his own expense, and found the number of inhabitants to be 25,000.

1794.

February 22.—Died, at his house in Palace-yard, Westminster, in the 74th year of his age, Henry Fynes Pelham Clinton, Duke of Newcastle, Recorder of Nottingham, &c. 1794

1794

February 23.—A number of young men, in a playful mood, were diverting themselves at the game of leapfrog in Broad-street, when one of them disappeared underground in a remarkable manner. He had leaped over the back of a comrade, in the customary way, and happened to alight on a spot where there was a well, forty yards deep. The aperture had simply been covered with boards and a little earth, and was uniform in appearance with the circumjacent ground. Fortunately, the man was extricated perfectly unhurt, and with an oath declared himself equal to any pantomimic performer on the stage, inasmuch as he dare leap without being caught in a blanket! The well was immediately arched over.

April 23.—Business was again suspended, the bells rung, bonfires made, and all possible marks of joy exhibited, on learning that Martinico had been taken by the British West India forces, and that the combined armies had secured a triumph over the French in Flanders.

May 27.—The war fever seems now to have attained its greatest intensity. As tidings of success after success came rolling in, the people grew almost delirious with loyal excitement, and anyone who ventured to question the propriety of the war, or to sigh for peace and returning commercial prosperity, was at once stigmatised as "disaffected," or as being a "leveller," or a "Jacobin." The *Journal* furnishes us with renewed evidence of the state of feeling, in the following extract:—"Tuesday last was a day of general rejoicing to the loyal inhabitants of the town. Early in the morning, a *Gazette Extraordinary* arrived by the heavy coach, containing a brief but pleasing account of the important victory gained by the Allied Army over that of the French general, Pichegru; immediately after, the bells were made to echo the glad tidings to all people, who, in one vast multitudinous throng, a little before two o'clock, lined the streets on the road as far as Trent-bridge, curiosity and zeal having wound up the expectations of all ranks to the highest pitch, to meet the mail coach on this auspicious day.

"As soon as it ascended Hollow-stone, the populace insisted on taking the horses from the carriage, which was, after some little reluctance, complied with, it being quite full of passengers. Each one was zealous who should be the foremost to assist in drawing the mail along; near ten thousand people had assembled by this time, who were chiefly bedecked with blue ribbons. When it arrived in view of the White Lion, the loudest plaudits welcomed (if we may be allowed the expression) the triumphal car to the place of its destination. And now, the scene commenced which gave to the astonished beholder more than his imagination could conceive—crowds followed crowds, huzzas echoed everywhere the happy sentiments of a truly loyal people; and it will serve to convince the towns around us, that whatever may have been conceived of Nottingham being disaffected to its King and Constitu-

tion, the events of this day must completely do away ; not to say **1794** but that there are some latent and restless spirits, whose minds have been previously poisoned by the lure held out by certain political tracts : tracts which are calculated to set the lower orders of the community at war against the higher, and thus (by the plans discovered) this happy isle was destined by its foes to undergo, what England will never forget,—the miseries of a civil convulsion ; but Providence, who ordains all things for the best, hath averted those evils which ‘we most righteously had deserved,’ for our divisions and discontents. Having not unsuitably digressed a little, let us return to the general hilarity of the day. A procession was next thought of, something in the manner of chairing a member ; when a certain tradesman, as true a cock of the blue as e’er was seen, with his handsome wig and crimson face, mounted the shoulders of a selected few, planks being fixed between that he might sit with ease ; who, thus arrayed (his wig being highly powdered with blue), proceeded round the principal streets, attended by some hundreds of spectators, and amidst the repeated plaudits from the fair belles at every window, who were blue in their dress, and loyal in their hearts.

Happy maids ! who thus pourtrayed
The finest feelings of your country’s aid.

“The churches had their ensigns (and what’s so great a right, for they were marked for destruction) of loyalty ; and their respective peals bore to the neighbouring villages the welcome news.

“In the evening, constellations were lighted up in abundance, guns fired, rockets thrown in the air, and many other tokens of joy displayed, that sufficiently bespoke the rapturous feelings of the populace ; one, amongst others, was in shooting at the effigy of a certain disciple of liberty and equality ; and though we will not be so far liberal as to think no man should be burnt in effigy merely for his opinion, yet when that opinion militates so much against the common weal, the folly of the former is palliated by the best and dearest considerations.

“A pair of handsome colours were also displayed by the people, accompanied with drum and fife, who paraded round the Market-place till it became dark ; after which, they repaired to the inns, &c., to toast the illustrious conquerors of this mighty battle ; in short nothing could exceed the ardour manifested on this joyous occasion ; every one vied with each other who could best excel in manly sentiment and rational entertainment. And happy are we to say, that all passed off with that decorum which it is the wish of all good men should always be observed on occasions like these.

“But an incident happened this day which we cannot pass by, viz. :—when the mail arrived opposite the shop door of a certain w—maker,* in Bridlesmith-gate, he, with more wit than

* Mr. Joseph Farnsworth, watchmaker. His satire was so severely felt that the Mayor caused him to be apprehended and lodged in gaol. After being kept there for thirty-five days, he was released without any charge being brought against him.

1794 prudence, exclaimed, 'Why, the mail used to be drawn by horses, but now, good lack! it's drawn in by asses!' which, at such a time, when the spirits of the people were raised almost to enthusiasm, was highly indecorous, and he met with that chastisement which his ill-timed witticism deserved. Since then, we hear he is lodged in gaol.

"On Thursday (May 29), the town was again agreeably surprised by the receipt of another *Gazette Extraordinary*, announcing laurels achieved by the Austrian general, Count Kauhitz, who, it seems, gallantly attacked the French near the town of L'Évique, not far from Bruges, and, after an obstinate conflict, drove the Carmagnols across the river Lys, killing upwards of 5,000, taking fifty pieces of cannon and upwards of 500 prisoners. The spirits of the inhabitants broke forth afresh, they drew the mail into the inn yard, and saluted the passengers and guard with three cheers. Similar tokens of loyalty took place nearly the same as on Tuesday, which we should be considered as prolix to repeat after what we have given, they being only a repetition. But we are informed, and sorry we are to inform, that our worthy True Blue,* who was so happy on Tuesday, unfortunately fell down in the crowd, and had one of his eyes sorely cut by falling upon the stones; but we trust, with proper skill, he'll soon recover.

"The above accounts being forwarded to the country places, the greatest joy prevailed amongst the rustics, who instantly snatched the keys of the church from the sexton, rushed through the solemn aisle to the bell ropes, and rang at intervals, the remainder of the day. Farmer Truelove sent them a fine flagon of the best beer he'd got, and went and seated himself in the midst of them, handing a hornful now and then, who each drank, 'God save the King and Farmer Truelove.'"

June 3.—The Duke of Portland elected Recorder, in the place of the Duke of Newcastle, deceased.

June 4.—The King's birthday was celebrated with more than usual *eclat*. St. Mary's tower was surmounted with a beautiful union flag, seven yards in length and five in breadth, and with numerous variegated streamers. St. Peter's and St. Nicholas's were decorated with blue flags of humbler dimensions.

With his characteristic loyalty, the Mayor ordered a double quantity of coal for the annual fire in the Market-place, and caused the figure of Justice upon the Exchange to be apparelled in a flowing blue silk robe. The bonfires were uncommonly numerous, and twenty fine fat sheep were roasted, and divided amongst those of the people who chose to partake of them. In the evening, upwards of three hundred gentlemen assembled in the Exchange Hall, by invitation, to drink his Majesty's health.

* Mr. Wright, a hairdresser, who had a shop in the Shoe Booth, and subsequently at the corner of Queen-street. The wig had evidently once adorned one of his Majesty's Judges of Assize, and being wide and flowing, and profusely powdered with blue, looked remarkably conspicuous. Wright always put it on when he went to poll, or at any time of public political excitement. When not required, its usual resting-place was on a peg in his barber's shop.

The toasts were extremely loyal, including the King, the Queen, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, the Duke of Clarence, Wm. Pitt, Esq., &c. 1794

At a public dinner the same day, at the Eight Bells, the following were amongst the loyal sentiments rapturously received by the company:—"May justice pursue the Paineites, though they have turned their backs on her," and "Eternal ballast-heaving to all Jacobins." The Eight Bells was not the only house where such sentiments were freely expressed: they were, with the exception of the Sun inn, Pelham-street (now the Durham Ox) and a few minor Democratic houses, quite common at all public places of entertainment. Anyone who ventured to utter an opinion unfavourable to the war, within their precincts, was unceremoniously ejected as a Jacobin. At some of them, including the Eight Bells, the Rose, in Bridlesmith-gate, the Peacock, in St. Peter's-square, and the Black Horse, in Stoney-street, inscriptions were stuck up in prominent places, "No Jacobin admitted here." If a suspected person happened to join the company at any of these places of resort, the process of trial and ejection was usually very summary. The chairman or anyone in the room, would begin to snuff as though his olfactory nerves were saluted by some offensive odour, and exclaim, with great affected disgust, "I smell a Jacobin!" All eyes would be at once directed to the supposed intruder, and unless he drank with great apparent heartiness some unequivocal toast or other expressive of hatred to all Democrats, the speedier he took to his legs the better for him.

June 7.—The spirit of festivity was again awakened by the receipt of the intelligence of Lord Howe's signal victory over the French fleet. The mail was once more hauled through the town by crowds of overjoyed townsmen, and great rejoicings followed.

June.—This and the following month were distinguished by an outbreak of popular feeling which displayed itself in a form that has ever since been known, *par excellence*, as "THE DUCKINGS." In bringing the facts before the reader, we shall give the versions put forth by both political parties, accompanied by foot notes of our own, and leave him to draw his own conclusion; premising, however, that great allowances ought in justice to be made for the excesses of the period, from a consideration of the feverish state of the public mind, and the imbecility and negligence of the civil authorities.

There is no other available record of the events referred to, from the pen of an anti-Democrat, than that furnished by the columns of the *Journal*. Unfortunately, this is very brief, the succeeding paragraphs including the whole of it.

The first of these paragraphs appeared on the 21st of June, when the journalist observed, "There is nothing more dangerous and alarming to true liberty, than the licentiousness of a mob, though even dictated by the zeal of the purest loyalty. The observation is made more as a caution for future occasions, than

1794 in allusion to anything that has yet happened—one or two instances only excepted. When a mob is once abroad, the great danger is of their receiving a wrong direction, which many evil spirits are ready enough to give them.”

Beyond this indistinct allusion, nothing more was stated till the 5th of July, when the following details were given :—

“Wednesday last (July 2), towards evening, a serious disturbance took place in this town, occasioned by the Royalist party ducking, in the river Leen, [near the bottom of Sussex-street,] a number of supposed disaffected people, some of whom had been found that morning exercising in the neighbouring fields, and who had showed, by way of triumph over the recent disagreeable intelligence from the Continent, a *paper** in their hats that was perfectly emblematical of the *meaning* of their hearts; which so much exasperated the former, that they went in a body to the spot, and, after a sharp but speedy conflict, put the latter entirely to rout, who flew for shelter into the cotton mill belonging to Mr. Denison, at Pennyfoot-stile. Here a violent altercation arose between both parties, the Royal side (we are sorry a necessity should arise to distinguish men at this time) insisting that their opponents should be delivered up to their fury; which not being complied with, the populace were bent on storming the outworks; and at this time it was, that some shots were fired from the mill, when several people were very badly wounded. This exasperated the people still worse, who now vowed revenge upon the Republicans and their friends; and, about nine o'clock, regardless of the whistling bullets, they began to demolish all the fences, gates, &c., round the premises, and made a large fire of them in the mill yard, which soon communicating to the workshops belonging thereto, made a most awful appearance; and, indeed, when the flames issued with so much fury, the greatest care was taken to prevent their extension to the mill and the other surrounding buildings, which happily succeeded: for if the inhabitants had not so exerted themselves, that part of the town would probably been a heap of ruins; this remarkably dry season being much against stopping the progress of the fires.

“The magistrates, as soon as they saw the mill in danger, immediately ordered out the Light Horse, quartered here, for its further protection, and thus saved that valuable manufactory from being destroyed; and used every pacific means in their power to quiet the minds of an enraged multitude; which had, at last, the desired effect for that night; for those workshops, &c., which were on fire were suffered to burn regularly out, and they blazed till near one in the morning.†

“In the morning, however, the Royalists did not disperse, but, by way of cooling the spirits of their adversaries, proceeded to the method stated in the beginning of this account. Ducking

* An imitation of the French cockade.

† Mr. Denison brought his action, and obtained compensation for the damage.

and pumping became the order of the day, though the former was most generally resorted to on this occasion: some scouting parties were seized, and dragged down to the canal, where they underwent an immersion into the water, and made to sing a recantation of their Revolutionary principles!!!* At any rate, we would not wish to have it understood that we conclude these matters to be altogether *right*—no, we should be novices of the law to indulge that for a moment—but we cannot help remarking, that the persons who have so suffered have drawn down the wrath of a loyal people upon them, and who absolutely courted their resentment; for to see men rejoicing at their country's misfortunes publicly, were enough to fire the heart of Loyalty to madness—make it go beyond the laws, and adopt, sometimes, methods irreconcilable to peace and good order.

"We since learn that the arms were delivered up from the mill, into the care of the magistrates, as well as several blunderbusses, canisters of shot, slugs, gunpowder, and other *reforming* articles, from the Plough public-house, the windows of which were entirely demolished by a justly incensed people."

The next week's paper states, "We are extremely happy in having it in our power to say, that by the vigilant and unwearied exertions of Henry Green, Esq., our chief magistrate, this town has remained in a state of peace and good order during the whole of the week. In our hurry of last week's account, we should have stated that the refugees took shelter at the Plough public-house, instead of Mr. Denison's mill."

The Rev. George Walker, of the High-pavement chapel, has left on record a longer and more circumstantial account, and it will be perceived from the following extract that his sympathies were strongly in favour of the Democrats.

Mr. Walker, after describing the tone of local feeling in several previous years, proceeds,—"*Societies were instituted, calling themselves 'Loyal,' and they appointed for their Secretary General, an itinerant vagabond,† who had found it necessary to make his escape from a place where he was better known. The miscreant was bedecked with a livery; and his principal employment was dealing out from the press (for the press was so then prostituted) continual lampoons upon all who dared to maintain an independent opinion; and pointing out their persons as the just objects of popular resentment and fury.*

"This conduct was continued with unabating perseverance, and two countrymen, coming to complain of some outrage they had suffered from their neighbours, on account of their differing from them in political sentiment, were violently taken from the place where the county magistrates were sitting, and conducted to a pump just at hand, where they were completely drenched, and

* Judging by his notes of exclamation, the journalist evidently viewed the ducking as a capital joke.

† The man thus designated was named Pilgrim, and thought undoubtedly clever, was compelled to write lampoons, and sell them in the streets, as a means of living.

1794 suffered every other species of insult and indignity, which the wanton imagination of a mob could suggest.* This was a hint that could not escape the penetrating and sagacious mind of the liberal and enlightened secretary; it lost none of its importance from being amplified and enforced by his pen; in short, the sun of loyalty was now approaching fast to the meridian, where it was to *drown* all inferior objects in the splendour of its rays.

"It had been the custom in Nottingham, for several weeks previous to the month of July, on any intelligence in favour of the Allied Powers, for the mail to enter the town with a blue flag, or ornamented with blue ribbons. The circumstance, in the then state of the public mind, was peculiarly calculated to excite and foment, amongst the poorer class of the people, the heat of party zeal; and to induce a great avidity, in both parties, to obtain the earliest information of the events which were passing on the Continent. Thus stimulated, both parties had long been in the habit of early watching the arrival of the mail; and the violence manifested upon many occasions, by the supporters of the war, had induced those who disapproved of it to separate themselves from the others, to avoid insult. Indeed, it not infrequently happened, that the arrival of good news produced a general state of drunkenness and disorderly behaviour all over the town amongst the lower orders of the approvers of the war; who were always ready to insult every person in the streets, whom they knew or suspected to be of opposite sentiments to themselves.

"At no time was the public expectation at a higher pitch, at which it had been held for a day or two, than on the 2nd of July; the supporters of the war were on the turnpike road ready to haul in the mail; and their opponents mounted on a hill, at about a quarter of a mile distance, [Sneinton-hill] waiting perhaps with equal anxiety. The arrival of the mail without either flag or ribbons produced in those who so eagerly expected them, that sickness of the heart which arises from hope deferred. Judging by their own feelings, that this disappointment would prove a matter of exultation and triumph to the opposite party, they proceeded to the hill where they were stationed, and immediately on their arrival assailed them, unprepared for such a combat, with sticks, stones, &c. The conflict did not immediately terminate, but fresh numbers coming to the aid of the assailants, the oppressed and insulted party were glad to retreat, and he was a happy man who escaped without marks of personal violence.

* The inhabitants of Newthorpe had been burning an effigy of Tom Paine, and when night came on, had expended all their ammunition. Unwilling to discontinue their sport, they applied to a small shopkeeper in the neighbourhood, named Matthew Lindley, for a fresh supply. Lindley declined serving them, "because," said he, "the sun is set, and the law forbids any person to sell powder after that time, for fear of accidents by fire." The irritated applicants at once grossly abused him, and broke his windows. In consequence of this, he applied for legal redress, and himself and some of the offenders were ordered to attend before the magistrates, at the White Lion Inn, which was then their usual place for sitting in petit sessions; Mr. Lindley taking his brother Robert with him as a witness. Instead of obtaining redress, the brothers were forced into the centre of a mob in the inn yard, and were from thence borne into the Market-place, loaded with almost every species of indignity. Mr. Walker, however, was mistaken in inferring that both of them underwent the abject process. While Robert was being pumped upon in front of the Exchange, the other had the good fortune to escape into a shop on the Long-row.

"It is but justice to the mob on this occasion to state, that the before mentioned genius of iniquity had, the day preceding, distributed one of his farragos of folly and falsehood, to irritate the public mind to some inordinate excess.* This conflict took place about three o'clock, and the Mayor, apprised of the tumult, repaired to the spot, where he remained a tame and patient spectator of breaking windows, dragging the peaceable inhabitants from their homes, kicking, beating, rolling them in the mud, pumping upon them and ducking them, &c. When the first paroxysm of mobbish fury was over, his worship proceeded, at the head of their high mightinesses, to make domiciliary visits in search of the firearms which anyone obnoxious to the mob might keep for his protection. It was the gallantry of true-born Englishmen, disarming a fallen foe. Some firearms were quietly given up, and others might have been taken at their peril.

"This peaceful, legal, and rational amusement continued till after five o'clock in the evening, when, weary of the pursuit of inferior game, they determined upon searching the cotton mill of Mr. Denison, at Pennyfoot-stile, for the same laudable purpose of seeking for concealed arms. Their leader, aware that the arms in this place would not be concealed at the approach of such authority, very prudently (after witnessing the dragging of another unfortunate victim to be ducked), with his usual apathy, walked home, leaving the mob and the brave defenders of the mill to settle their dispute as they were able. The windows of the mill were much demolished before young Denison remonstrated with the mob, and told them the consequence of further outrage. Those within the mill were at last, however, compelled to fire, to prevent the completion of the most horrid threats, not only against the mill, but against the lives of its protectors.

"Driven to a distance from the immediate object of their fury, the mob proceeded to pull down an oak fence, belonging to a woodyard adjoining, and to set fire to it, and the wood together; from whence, with the most active industry, they communicated the flames to six or seven adjoining tenements, the mill workshops, &c., hoping in the issue to reach the mill itself. After a lapse of four hours, and repeated applications to the Mayor, Mr. Denison procured the assistance of the military, who lay in the Barracks adjoining the town, and they arrived about ten o'clock at night, in time to protect the engines which were employed to extinguish the flames, the leathern pipes of which had been repeatedly, wantonly, and maliciously cut. By the assistance of the soldiers, the mob was dispersed, and the flames got under, with no other damage than the destruction of the outbuildings. It is

* This production was headed, "The Reformation Pump," and it exhorted the *Loyalists* to bring the *Jacobins* to the Exchange pump, that they might be "converted." It concluded by the following gentle admonition: "The preaching bookseller and the atheistical shoemaker in Bridesmith-gate must apply in time, or nothing but a halter will effect a cure." Charles Sutton, a bookseller, and a local preacher amongst the Wesleyan Methodists, and Mr. Wheatley, a shoemaker, who afterwards emigrated to America, were the persons alluded to. They however kept out of the way, and escaped the threatened infliction.

1794 melancholy to relate that men, whose situation in life commanded them to exhibit a good example to their inferiors, were seen active in this diabolical transaction.

"It is here seen that even Mr. Denison's respectability (so well known to the inhabitants of Nottingham) could not protect him from popular outrage, because his conduct ran counter to the stream of popular prejudice.

"In some minds we find a disposition to remorse, when they find themselves the authors of great and extensive mischief; but our redoubted secretary, like old Suwarrow, 'contemplating the glorious havoc that his brave Russians had made' before the suburbs of Warsaw, issued out another handbill, commending the glorious havoc which *his* brave rabble had accomplished, and enforcing, as a cure for Jacobinism, the continuance of those 'holy ablutions' in the mud, river, &c., which were ludicrously styled 'baptism.' The principal officiating priest, on this occasion, was a journeyman butcher, who was immediately dubbed with the title and advanced to the dignity of a bishop; we presume not a *dissenting* one, as there is an absolute certainty that he was never a *non-juror*.

"The mob, anticipating the suggestions of their humane and benevolent instructor, recommenced their depredations with increased vigour the next morning. One man had his windows broken, his dwelling entered, and a great part of his goods destroyed, and otherwise experienced such abuse and personal injury, that his life was for some time conceived in danger.

"Having no rallying point, and being ignorant of their strength and numbers, many, who believed themselves obnoxious to popular violence, retired to the neighbouring woods or villages. Three men, who were at Basford, were hunted down to the place of their concealment; where the dogs once got the scent, they were seldom found to falter. These victims of their resentment were compelled to return to Nottingham, with paper cockades affixed to their hats to give a plausible pretence to the after tragedy; as it was stated that they were found with this mark of distinction, learning the military exercise.* In this manner they were led through the town, conducted to the river, and there most inhumanly ducked and beaten, till they were nearly lifeless. The mob was proceeding to tie all three together with a rope, when the appearance of a constable and some soldiers put an end to the villainous mischief. One of these poor fellows, (John Relps, a master stockingmaker), never recovered from the injury he met with, and survived the transaction but a very short period. He was a corpulent man, and being in a profuse perspiration, the protracted ducking had a disastrous effect.

* Though the individuals might not have been exercising, it is certain that some of the town Democrats were in the habit of so doing, as they alleged, to prepare for their future defence. They usually went early in the morning to Sneinton Plain, where they were drilled by a retired sergeant, named Robert Brown, who was subsequently landlord of the Dog and Duck, in Chandler's-lane. As a substitute for muskets, they used sticks, which were sarcastically called "wooden guns."

"Ducking, pumping, &c., became now the order of the day, 1794 and those who lived at a distance from Nottingham will scarcely credit the relation, that such outrages were continued, under the nose of the Chief Magistrate, for upwards of four days; the unfortunate victims having no protection offered them, than being sent to gaol* for their further personal security. As it was the fashion to *imitate* French principles, a Committee of Public Safety was established, and its sittings made permanent; a list of proscribed persons lay before them, and the mob, upon finishing one achievement, referred to this committee for instructions for the next. The president of this committee, though destitute of the talents of either, had more of the rough bluntness of Legendre than the artful hypocrisy of Robespierre."

The committee alluded to by Mr. Walker met at the residence of the late Mr. Richard Hooton, maltster, Fisher-gate. Mr. Hooton's house will be remembered as one of the most picturesque in the town; it was constructed almost entirely of timber, laths, and plaster, and its three storeys projected beyond each other over the street, so that the uppermost was considerably the largest. It was pulled down in 1843.

Most of the individuals included in the committee's list were ducked, though some few escaped with being only half-suffocated by a rolling in a peculiarly offensive ditch which bounded fields on the north side of Coalpit-lane. The Leen and the newly formed canal were the waters dignified by the name of "Jordan," where the "baptisms by immersion" took place. Those performed by "sprinkling," were chiefly at the Exchange pump, and the assistants at the ceremonial generally included one or more *ladies* of wide spread reputation, whose peculiar province it was to see that the cooling process was properly completed. The popular distich was,—

We'll pump upon them, till they sing,
Upon their knees, "God save the King."

June 18.—At the Theatre, this evening, Mr. Sidney, while sustaining the character of Rundy, in the humorous farce of *The Farmer*, introduced into the author's text the following pointed allusion to the local "baptisms:" "They told me at Lunnun," he said, with assumed *naïveté*, "they were all Jacobites at Nottenjum, but they'd fund a way to cure 'em; douzing 'em with pump water had ta'en the faver off." The comedian evidently knew the temper of his audience, and the coarse allusion was received with roars of laughter and applause.

July 9.—A man named Isaac Rooke, who had recently been discharged from St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, and was on his way to Chesterfield, was found in a field near Nottingham, to all appearance perfectly dead. Assistance being procured, he was conveyed to St. Peter's church, for the purpose of a coroner's inquisition; but, as the door of the edifice was about to be shut, it was thought the body moved, and on examination, his pulse was

* The Town Gaol was opened as a place of refuge.

1794 found to beat strongly. Being taken to a public-house, he was soon sufficiently refreshed to resume his journey. He said he was subject to fits, for which he had been bled many times, and that, but a few weeks previous, he had been laid in a coffin preparative to interment, but was providentially saved from being buried alive by being perceived to breathe. To prevent so dreadful a contingency, he subsequently carried in his pocket a cautionary document.

September 10.—Installation of the Duke of Portland into the office of Recorder. The members of the Corporation waited upon his Grace at the Blackmoor's Head inn, and were severally introduced to him by Mr. Green, the Mayor. The Duke then accompanied them in full procession to the Guildhall, a band playing the National Anthem along the route. After a speech from the Mayor, and the usual administration of oaths, his Grace spoke as follows:—"Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,—You may rest assured I shall ever bear in mind the honour you have conferred upon me by electing me your Recorder. I shall ever be happy to render any service to the Corporation and town of Nottingham. Something having been said touching my principles, I assure you, those I was born and educated in I have not deviated from; but when I saw the country in danger, I stepped forth and joined the Administration, to serve the King and Constitution of these kingdoms to the utmost of my power."

Loud cheers broke forth from every quarter of the Hall, and the procession, reforming, returned to the Duke's apartments at the inn, where the members partook of an elegant cold collation. At three the same afternoon, the Corporation and many of the principal inhabitants sat down to a sumptuous entertainment provided by his Grace, at Thurland Hall. It consisted of a fine turtle, 140lb weight, four fat bucks, fish, a profusion of game, and every luxury that nature and art could produce. Pines, melons, grapes, the finest confectionery, and an unlimited supply of wines of the best vintages, left nothing to be desired. The Duke remained with his guests till a late hour. His Grace left twenty guineas with the Mayor to provide an entertainment for the poor.

September 19.—It having been hinted that Sir John Warren might be expected in the town, *en route* for Stapleford, after active and successful service on the French coast, it was determined by the Loyalists to give him a public reception. Accordingly, Sir John was met near the Trent-bridge by a great body of people, who saluted him with three loud cheers. The horses were then taken from his carriage, and the people laying hold of the shafts, and pushing behind, the naval hero was drawn into the town amidst the acclamation of thousands, preceded by a company of the Light Horse, twelve sergeants and five drummers of the recruiting parties, a number of flags, and "the Cock o' th' Blue," in his full bottomed wig.

After the procession had been round the Market-place, Sir John alighted at the White Lion inn, and partook of refreshment. The people continuing to crowd round the inn, the gallant hero addressed them from a window, thanking them in the warmest terms for the honour they were conferring, and assuring them that it would thenceforth be the pride of his life to deserve well of his King and country. The procession then reformed, huzzas rent the air, the bells rang, blue streamers and cockades were displayed without number, flags of the same colour were mounted on the church towers, and thus accompanied by the utmost demonstrations of esteem, Sir John was conducted out of the town. 1794

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Thomas Caunt elected Mayor.

October 3.—The Gentlemen Yeomanry of the Town Troop had a grand field day. Their number was sixty-seven, and in the evening, Ichabod Wright, Esq., their Captain, gave them a sumptuous entertainment at Thurland Hall.

Troops of Volunteer Yeomanry Cavalry, of which the above mentioned was one, were common throughout the country. In Nottinghamshire there were four troops, viz., the Town, of which I. Wright, Esq., was Captain, and W. R. Middlemore, Esq., Lieutenant; the Retford, of which A. H. Eyre, Esq., was Captain; the Mansfield, commanded by William Boothby, Esq.; and the Newark, under the command of John Denison, Esq. A. H. Eyre, Esq., was Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant of the whole corps, and W. Boothby, Esq., of Edwinstowe, the Major.

Each of the troops or divisions was to include not less than fifty, nor more than eighty men, and the Nottingham was decidedly the best appointed and most effective, the men being generally young and light, and the horses handsome and active. The Mansfield division was the least so. The corps was sustained by a county subscription on a most extensive scale. The leading nobility gave £300 each, and the gentry proportionate sums. In Nottingham itself, the annexed were part of the list of contributions:—J. Wright, £50, I. Wright, £50, J. Sherwin, £10, Rev. J. Bigsby, £5, G. Burbage, £5, John Vezey, £10, T. Smith, £21, C. Launder, £50, J. Morris, £50, Dr. J. Storer, £10, J. Sherring, £20, C. Huthwaite, £10, J. Beardmore, £10, H. Parker, £21, J. Wilkinson, £20, Marlow, Stubbin, & Co., £10, Jas. Hooley, £10, T. Mettam, £10, T. Boote, £10, R. Hepstinstall, £20, Rev. C. Wyld, £10, Rev. Sir R. Kaye, Bart., £25, Mrs. Butler, £20, Mr. T. Rawson, £21, J. Winrow, £21, L. Lowe, £10, J. Hardwick, £10, T. Frost, £21, Rev. Dr. Haines, £21, John James, £10, the Radford Cotton Company, £63, J. Jarman, £5, W. Trentham, £5, and an immense number of others.

October.—The Rev. Richard Alliot elected pastor of the Independent church and congregation worshipping in Castle-gate, in the place of Mr. Plumbe, deceased, after a vacancy of three years. Mr. Alliot, who for nearly forty-six years sustained the office above mentioned, was born at Coventry in 1769, where his

- 1794 father was pastor of a Congregational church. At a suitable age, he entered on the ministerial office at Stratford-on-Avon, where he remained till he removed to Nottingham. When chosen pastor there were only forty-one members in the church, but between then and the period of his death 769 were received. In 1828, his eldest son (the Rev. R. Alliott, LL.D., the late Theological Tutor of the Congregational Academy at Plymouth) was associated with him in the ministry, and was ordained co-pastor in 1830. Mr. Alliott died in April, 1840, and was interred in a vault in the yard of the meeting-house on the following Friday, on which occasion the Rev. James Gawthorne, of Derby, officiated. In the evening of the same day, a suitable discourse was delivered by the Rev. Joseph Gilbert, to a numerous auditory; and on the following Sabbath additional funeral sermons were preached by the Rev. J. Gawthorne and the Rev. W. Pickering. Few ministers of the Gospel have been more generally or deservedly esteemed. The whole course of his ministry was eminently evangelical, and an agreeable and intellectual variety distinguished his ministrations.

November 3.—The Nottinghamshire Regiment of Militia, after an encampment of six months, near Danbury in Essex, went into winter quarters at thirteen villages in the northern part of that county, of which Baintree and Bocking were the chief.

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- 1795 *January 19.*—A public meeting was held in the Exchange Room, to promote a subscription for the relief of the poor, who were suffering from the conjoint influence of a deficiency of employment and the extraordinary rigour of the season. About £1,200 was subscribed. Tickets for sixpennyworths of bread were for some weeks afterwards freely distributed, by a committee which sat every Thursday at the Exchange, and the bakers who honoured them were required to write upon each the name of the person from whom they received it. On appointed days the tickets were exchanged for cash.

The activity of the recruiting parties at this period and subsequently was particularly great. Besides five or six for regiments of the line, there were others for local corps. Every possible inducement to enlist was held forth. The Loyal Nottinghamshire Fencible Foot commanded by Colonel O'Connor, offered a bounty of eight guineas, with a guarantee that recruits should not be drafted nor sent on foreign service. The Prince of Wales' Loyal Leicester Fencibles, commanded by Colonel Parkyns, offered "the most glorious opportunity since the world began, to all fine spirited fellows:" recruits were to serve at home "only" during the war, and were to receive "a most liberal bounty."

Major Newton's Corps of Infantry, offered "great encouragement 1795 to all gentlemen volunteers, free, able, and willing to serve his Majesty, King George the Third, and very large bounties." This Major Newton resided at Bulwell House, and the head-quarters of his regiment was the Blackmoor's Head. Substitutes for Militiamen and recruits for the Yeomanry were also eagerly and continually sought after.

Exertions equally great, though on a less extensive scale, were put forth to obtain men for the navy. The Navy Act compelled the authorities of every parish in the county to provide a certain number of men, and the overseers were accustomed to offer bounties for volunteers. In St. Mary's, as an instance, the placard ran thus: "God save the King, and success to the Navy! Rouse! Rouse! To Arms! To Arms! Conquest leads the way! All bold and daring Robin Hood's men, who are known to be brave and true, have an unexampled opportunity to make their fortunes with prize money; also the honour of enrolling themselves with the bravest seamen in the world, the British tars of Old England!!! A bounty of twelve guineas to each dashing hero, to serve in his Majesty's Royal Navy, which rides triumphant on the seas, and dares the Gallic foe to combat. * * *

As Robin Hood's men are known to be good marksmen, brave, and true, the admiral may appoint them all to serve in frigates, when they are certain to make their fortunes to a man. Now or Never, as only few are wanted—no time is to be lost at this glorious opportunity, or they will lose it for ever. * *

As a further encouragement, every gentleman volunteer will receive a handsome Royal undress navy uniform, hat, jacket, trowsers, &c. All able bodied men who wish to enter into this noble service, immediate application may be made to Mr. Sturt, Black Horse, Stoney-street; Mr. Howard, Wheeler-gate; or to Mr. Shackleton, at the Barley Mow, Narrow-marsh; where each loyal hero will be honourably received, kindly entertained, and enter into present pay and full allowance."

February 9.—One of the most remarkable floods in this neighbourhood commenced this day, owing to the breaking up of a frost which had continued without intermission from the 24th of December. The frost was so intense as to freeze up the Trent as low as Gainsborough, and was accompanied by immense and frequent descents of snow. When the thaw took place, it was so excessively rapid that there was not a valley in the counties of Stafford, Derby, or Nottingham that was not the channel of a river, the current of which carried along, with irresistible impetuosity, vast sheets of ice and half-melted snow, posts, rails, timber, sheep, &c., into the Trent. The river consequently swelled so inordinately that its overflow entered the lower parts of the town, and inflicted great damage. The inhabitants of Narrow-marsh in particular were made prisoners in their houses during two days and nights, the water being upwards of three feet deep in some of

1795 them, and the consequent loss so severe that a public subscription had to be raised to mitigate the distress it occasioned. When at its greatest altitude, the water was two feet ten inches higher than any flood previously on record. In addition to the damages in the Marsh, the newly built houses in the Meadow-plats were invaded by the insidious element, and their inhabitants put to the rout; the canal banks were washed in in several places; many cattle, horses, and sheep perished, including, at West Bridgford alone, nineteen beasts and thirty sheep, and at Wilford and Lenton nearly 400 sheep; the new Ten-arch bridge in the Meadows was rendered useless; and, in short, the scene the Trent itself presented, bearing down in its mighty stream horses and sheep, haystacks and trees, and farm produce of all kinds, was amply sufficient to show the unprecedented extent of the calamity. This flood is estimated to have been about 14 in. higher than the flood of 1852, and 10 in. higher than that of October, 1875.

February 25.—National fast-day, by command of the King. The Nottingham Troop of Gentlemen Yeomanry Cavalry, the Inniskillen Dragoons, Colonel O'Connell's, Colonel Parkyn's, and Colonel Newton's Loyal Fencibles went in grand procession to Divine service at St. Mary's.

March 13.—Trial and condemnation of David Proctor, before Mr. Justice Rooke, on very clear and satisfactory evidence, for committing a rape on the person of Charlotte Waters, his daughter-in-law, who was scarcely ten years of age. On receiving the admonition of the judge, to prepare for death, without indulging in any expectation of human mercy, Proctor exclaimed, "This is real murder!" He was hung on the 25th, and was attended at Gallows-hill by a Baptist minister, who assisted him in his devotions. To the last, he denied his guilt, and died asserting his entire innocence. Apparently, he was very devout. Proctor was 36 years of age, and lived in Broad-marsh. He was a native of Sheffield, and by trade a razor grinder. His body was interred in St. Mary's church-yard.

March 14.—Joseph Campbell and Nathaniel Crisp were tried and convicted at the Town Hall, for riot and assault. The indictment set forth that the prisoners, with others, on the 2nd of the previous July, did illegally enter and search houses, break windows, and drag persons (the prosecutors, Marriott and Duckmanton, amongst the number) to certain pumps and waters, where they were half drowned, and nearly suffocated with mud, and otherwise beaten and cruelly treated. They were fined a shilling each, and ordered to be imprisoned six calendar months, and until the fine be paid.

April 18.—This evening (Saturday), in consequence of the assemblage in the Market-place of a large mob, with the avowed intention of sacking the Shambles, the Riot Act was publicly read and the Yeomanry called out. By their diligent exertions during four hours, seconded by the Dragoons from the Barracks, thirteen

of the ringleaders were apprehended, and the tranquillity of the town restored. This disturbance led to the introduction of a row of stalls, for country butchers, extending along the north side of the Exchange. The Mayor authorised them for the purpose of securing a better supply of meat, and a spirit of competition.

May 17.—Died, at his seat at Sunning-hill, Berkshire, Thos. Fynes Pelham Clinton, third Duke of Newcastle, Colonel of the 17th Dragoons, and Lord Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire, born July 1st, 1752. His death was occasioned by the rupture of a blood vessel under the operation of an emetic. He was succeeded by his eldest son, John Pelham, born January 3, 1785.

June 4.—The King's birthday was again celebrated with great display. The flags ornamented the towers of the churches, and bonfires were as numerous as ever, and the figure of the blind goddess on the Exchange was decorated, as last year, with blue silk robes. The Loyal Nottinghamshire Fencibles, being now stationed at Doncaster, marched to the Race-course, and after forming a square, and piling the drums, the regimental colours were laid thereon and consecrated by the Rev. Mr. Rastal, chaplain to the regiment, who preached a sermon on the occasion.

June 6.—Died, at Welbourn, after a few hours illness, John Storer, Gent., of Nottingham. He was an eminent preacher amongst the Society of Friends, and had twice made a tour over the American continent. His age was 71, and his remains were interred in the burial-ground in Walnut-tree-lane.

June 19.—The Loyal Nottinghamshire Fencibles march from Doncaster for Barton, Lincolnshire.

July 14.—The Nottinghamshire Yeomanry Cavalry (comprising the Nottingham, Newark, Retford, and Mansfield troops), under the command of Colonel Eyre, drew up in front of the Exchange, in Nottingham Market-place, to receive their colours. The troops had previously formed in Sneinton field, from whence they had marched to the appointed place. The windows of the Exchange being filled by ladies of the first rank and fashion, and the spacious area by an immense crowd of spectators, and the day remarkably fine, the scene was bright and joyous. Charles Pierrepont, Esq., (afterwards Earl Manvers), M.P. for the county, presented the royal standard, in the name of Mrs. Lumley Saville, and Thomas Webbe Edge, Esq., presented the provincial standard, in the name of Lady Warren. The presentation addresses were as follows :—

Mr. Pierrepont said,—“Gentlemen, next to the honour of being your Representative, I know no greater than being deputed to present you this standard, which comes from the hands of beauty, and is consigned to those of honour. If, as Englishmen, and Nottinghamshire men, the name of Saville was dear to us before, it will now be doubly so. May your laurels be ever entwined with myrtle; and may the conduct of the corps be as irreproachable and meritorious as that of its Commander.”

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Mr. Edge's address was equally short and pointed. He said,—“Gentlemen, in presenting you the provincial standard, allow me to recall to your memory, that in the unnatural rebellion in 1745, the only county corps that served in quelling it was raised in this province. Where they served is known to every one; how they served is recorded in the history of the country, and I trust, in its gratitude. The lady in whose name I have the honour to present you this ensign is the daughter of a general officer of distinguished reputation, and the wife of one who is serving his country at this moment, with the greatest zeal, activity, and success. May the present Warren prove the future Howe!”

After other formalities, the consecration of the standards, their delivery to the cornets, &c., the troops were conducted to the Forest, and went through a variety of evolutions. A grand entertainment at Thurland Hall, a fashionable ball at the Assembly Rooms, and a brilliant display of fireworks in the Market-place, served to render the day additionally memorable.

The *Journal* of this date gives the subjoined description of the colours of the regiment:—“The Royal standard was of the most superb workmanship, being crimson, very richly embroidered with the Royal arms on both sides. Devices: at one corner, a white horse, embroidered; at the other, N. Y. C. surrounded with rose and thistle.

“The provincial standard was peculiarly elegant, and the devices admirably chosen. The ground, buff silk (the facing of the regiment); in the centre, G. R. with a crown very richly embroidered, roses, wheat ears, and the olive branch entwined. At one corner, the arms of the county; at another, implements of husbandry, bound up with flowers; at the opposite corners, martial trophies, with a bow and quiver, on which was embroidered ‘Robin Hood.’ Over the crown, on a garter blue silk label, were the words, ‘*Libertas sub rege pio*’ (Liberty under a religious King), in letters of gold spangles: underneath, a similar label, with the words, ‘*Conguges, Liberi, et Penates*,’ (Our wives, our children, and our household gods).

“On the reverse, an oak tree with golden acorns, ivy creeping up the stem, and at the root of it the word ‘Shirewood.’ On one side of the tree, the arms of the county: on one point of the swallow tails, martial trophies; on the other, implements of husbandry. Above the oak tree, a label, on garter blue silk, had the words, ‘*Et Decus et Tutamen*,’ (Honour and defence); and underneath a similar label, with the words ‘Nottinghamshire Volunteer Cavalry;’ the whole edged with silver fringe, and tassels richly ornamented with silver and buff silk, and was a performance of the most beautiful embroidery.”

July 23.—The only prisoner for trial at the town assizes was a young woman named Ann Meekings, who was convicted of stealing a bit of lace edging from the shop of Messrs. Swann,

Long-row. Mr. Justice Buller, in the usual terms, sentenced her to be hung. She was so violently affected, that she screamed for several minutes most piteously. She was afterwards reprieved, and her sentence commuted into a few weeks imprisonment and hard labour in the Town Gaol. 1795

July.—The price of corn was such, wheat selling at 100s. a quarter, that bread could not be procured by the working classes without great difficulty. "The assize of bread," set by the Mayor, provided that the eighteenpenny loaf should weigh 5lb. 4oz. 6dr. Not being able or willing to trace an effect to its cause, the suffering classes attributed their privation to the "extortionate" bakers; and on the 20th, a large mob, consisting principally of women, went from one baker's shop to another, set their own price on the stock therein, and putting down the money, took it away. They were permitted to pursue this course for several hours, but the bakers becoming very clamorous for protection, the authorities at length interfered, and the riot was subdued by the assistance of the military from the Barracks, and the Gentleman Troop of Yeomanry, who jointly scoured the streets till midnight.

The Loyal Nottinghamshire Fencibles removed this month to man the garrisons in the island of Guernsey.

William Henry Cavendish Bentinck, third Duke of Portland, appointed Lord Lieutenant of the county.

August 4, 5, 6.—The races fixed for these days were singularly unproductive of sport. On the first day, the King's purse of 100 guineas was walked for over the course by Mr. Hutchinson's Constitution; and for the Four-year-old plate there was no race, only one horse being entered. The second day produced but two competitors for the Three-year-old plate, which was taken with the greatest ease, at one heat, by Mr. Milbank's Sober Robin; and the Hunter's sweepstakes were taken by Mr. Lumley's Mischief, beating Mr. Ichabod Wright's Draper with almost equal facility. On the third day, for the Aged plate there was no race for want of horses. So that of the five races advertised to take place in the three days, but which, according to modern custom, would barely have been enough for one, there were only two heats.

September 1.—All the commissioned officers of the 12th Regiment of Light Dragoons, and Lieutenant Middlemore and Cornet Hadden, of the Yeomanry Cavalry, were presented by the Corporation with the freedom of the town, as an acknowledgment of their meritorious exertions in quelling the riot of July.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Benjamin Hornbuckle elected Mayor.

October 8.—Death of Andrew Kippis, D.D., F.R.S., and A.S., a native and burghess of Nottingham, aged 70 years. This eminent man was born in 1725. His father, Robert Kippis, was a hosier in the silk trade, as was likewise a brother. His father dying whilst the subject of this notice was in his boyhood, he went to reside with his grandfather at Sleaford, and received his classical

1795 education at the grammar school of that town. He took up his freedom in 1747.

In 1741, having resolved to devote himself to the ministry, he removed to Northampton, and commenced his academical studies under Dr. Doddridge. After a residence of five years at the academy, he settled as a Dissenting minister at Boston, in 1746, and in November, 1750, accepted the charge of a congregation at Dorking, in Surrey. In 1753, the congregation in Princes-street, Westminster, chose him as their minister, and in the September following, he married, and fixed his residence there. He continued the pastor of the church upwards of 42 years. In June, 1767, Mr. Kippis received, unsolicited, the degree of D.D. from the University of Edinburgh. He was elected F.A.S., March 19, 1778, and F.R.S., June 17, 1799, and was of the Council of both societies.

Dr. Kippis united that knowledge of men and books which rendered his conversation unusually interesting and delightful; and as a minister he was eminent for his profound acquaintance with Scripture and every branch of theology. His sermons were remarkable for perspicuity, elegance, and energy; while his elocution was unaffected and impressive. He possessed from nature superior powers and strength of mind, and these he had cultivated with vigour and success. He laboured almost incessantly with his pen. His improved edition of Dr. Doddridge's lectures is a work of great value; and "The History of Knowledge, Learning, and Taste in Great Britain," prefixed to the new Annual Register, was received by the literary world with deserved applause. But the work which engaged the principal attention of Dr. Kippis and by which he is chiefly distinguished as an author, is the edition of the "*Biographia Britannica*," published under his supervision. In this great national undertaking, which, to the reproach of our literature, remains in an unfinished state, are developed the comprehensiveness and varied powers of his mind, the correctness of his judgment, the vast extent of his information, his indefatigable researches and unremitting industry, his peculiar talent of appreciating the merits and analysing the labours of the most eminent writers, and his unshaken integrity, unbiassed fidelity, and impartial decision on the characters of the philosopher, statesman, poet, and divine. His style in this work is remarkably distinguished for its elegance and purity, and gives a peculiar lustre to the rich stores of knowledge he imparted.

Dr. Kippis was guardian of the late Rev. James Tayler, minister of High-pavement chapel, in this town; and from his instructions it was that Mr. Tayler derived that rich-toned, full elocution, for which, as a public speaker, he was so much distinguished.

The political opinions of the Doctor would at the present day be thought of an ultra character. He was a member of the Society for Constitutional Information, of the Society of the

Friends of the People, and of the Revolution Society, and was consequently, in the common parlance of the day, a Jacobin. 1795

November 18.—About eleven o'clock at night the town and neighbourhood experienced a severe shock of an earthquake; it was preceded by a noise resembling thunder, and its duration was about ten seconds. The shock was sufficiently violent to make the bells of the churches emit loud tones, as well as to overthrow a number of chimneys, and cause many affrighted inhabitants to rush out of their houses. The weather that evening had been remarkably serene.

December 5.—Died, at his residence in Bellar-gate, Mr. John Arnold, in his 69th year. This individual was very eccentric. He was possessed of a small independancy, and having nothing better to do, mixed very freely with public-house society. For small bets on any disputed point he had a particular partiality, but invariably persisted in holding the stakes himself. Hence arose the once common inquiry when a bet was proposed, "Who shall be Johnny Arnold?" i.e., Who shall hold the stakes?

December 16.—A most desperate attempt to escape from the County Gaol was made this morning, by John Hewitt, who had been lodged there for stealing a horse. On his attempt being discovered, after he had got over the wall and jumped down into the area, before he could be secured he made ineffectual attempts to commit suicide, by stabbing himself repeatedly with a penknife. The felony having been committed near Manchester, Hewitt was subsequently removed to Lancaster Gaol, where he was tried and executed.

The Castle, which up to about this date had been the occasional residence of the Dukes of Newcastle, appears to have been now totally deserted by its noble proprietor. Throsby, in his History of Nottinghamshire, published this year, says: "Within the Castle I found nothing to attract; the pictures, which once adorned the walls of the apartments, are removed, and the chief of the furniture. There remains only some starved tapestry in some of the rooms that requires notice. In the State bedroom I judge it to be most excellent. I remember being shown a state bed in this apartment thirty or forty years ago, said to have been slept on by Queen Anne; but that has journeyed hence, probably to return no more. Some of the rooms I found occupied by a Miss Kirkby: lately, a part of the Castle was used as a boarding school."

A few years later, a correspondent of the *Gentlemen's Magazine*, no bad authority on topographical and antiquarian subjects, made the following remarks:—"It is now many years since a Duke of Newcastle made any lengthened stay within the walls of Nottingham Castle. At the time it was noticed in *The Beauties of England and Wales*, about twenty years since, it was inhabited by two ladies, in separate tenements. The rooms were of noble dimensions, and furnished in a half-modern style. In the drawing-room, which commanded an extensive prospect, were heavy

- 1795 velvet curtains, and cabinets of the time of Louis XIV. The dining-room and the suite adjoining were, perhaps, the most ancient in the house. They were adorned with some good family pictures, several of them inserted in the panels, the heavy carved work of which served them as frames. The staircase was a fine specimen of English oak and stone work ; but most of the pictures which had at one time adorned it were removed. One or two ancient helmets remained, as well as the long rolls of the genealogy of its noble possessor ; but amidst these relics of the past there was no attempt to introduce modern art or comfort. An air of desolation pervaded the entire building."

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- 1796 *February 2.*—Sir John Borlase Warren, Bart., attended at the Guildhall, to receive the freedom of the town.

This occasion called forth all the enthusiasm of the populace, who determined to give the gallant admiral another right hearty reception. Accordingly, the day was ushered in by the ringing of bells, affixing the flags on the towers, &c. At eleven, the Nottingham troop of the Yeomanry Cavalry proceeded from the Market-place with their provincial colour unfurled, as far as Lenton, accompanied by a band of music, the various recruiting parties, and an immense body of spectators, among whom was Admiral Shirley in a phaeton and pair of prancing steeds. Sir John, on meeting the procession, was received with a full military salute, the band struck up "See the conquering hero comes," the spectators, most of whom had either blue rosettes or sprigs of laurel, gave loud cheers, and when the naval hero had proceeded as far as the Sand-hills, they took the horses from his carriage, and drew it into the town.

"The number of people," states the record, "was beyond all calculation on their arrival in the Market-place, who, we may say, to a man, greeted Sir John with the most lively and reiterated plaudits to the Town Hall," where Mr. Coldham, in the name of the Mayor, presented him with the town's freedom. Being reconducted into the Market-place, where the Yeomanry were drawn up in a hollow square, Sir John and Capt. Wright delivered complimentary speeches, and after he had again been drawn by the populace round the Market-place, and received the greetings of ladies from nearly every window, he alighted at the White Lion, and the assemblage dispersed.

In the evening, at the expense of the gallant Admiral, five hogsheads of ale were given away at various public-houses.

April.—The Nottinghamshire Militia stationed at Hull.

April 25.—It having being rumoured that Mr. Gervase Smart, baker, of this town, had hoarded up a large stock of corn, with a view of raising its price, a number of persons, who thought that

wheat was already sufficiently high, 77s. per quarter, assembled about his house, and after abusing him in unmeasured terms, broke his windows, and threatened to pull down the premises.

After the magistrates had exerted, though ineffectually, all the influence they possessed, to induce the mob to disperse, the Yeomanry and a company of the 12th Light Dragoons were ordered out, and behaved with great coolness, notwithstanding the insults and taunts heaped upon them. Not succeeding, however, after parading the streets several hours, in persuading the people to retire to their habitations, they received the word of command to fire. To their humanity be it recorded, they discharged their pieces so that only one person was injured, and that was a youth whom a bullet struck in the heel. Several of the mob were then arrested, and the rest made a precipitate flight.

May 4.—The 12th Dragoons left the town, and were succeeded at the Barracks by six troops of the Clydesdale Fencible Cavalry.

The *Journal*, in its remarks on prevailing fashions, states,—“The *haut ton* of female head-dress, is to truss up a dark cropped *nob* in a kind of golden cabbage net. For morning dress, a Caroline wrapper, tied with a large cotton cord at the waist (where the wrapper would be as wide as at any other part), the peasant bonnet, tied under the chin; a small mob cap under the bonnet; and a muslin pelisse, that serves to wear either as a dress or cloak. Thus the absolute law-giver, Fashion, decrees that a female waist is unnecessary, and in consequence, the most grotesque figures, for ALL forms adopt the same dress, still continue to be exhibited.”

May 26.—Death of John Bilby, Gent., grandson of the founder of “Bilby’s Hospitals.”

This person was particularly well known, no less by his eccentricities, than from the circumstance of his being the editor of the *Journal*. For nearly fifty years was he seen at the printing-office, certain hours every day, regularly at his post, and never received or asked for one farthing remuneration, having rendered this extended service solely from a love of the employment. And what is equally surprising, though he had several poor relations, one of whom was blind and destitute, he bequeathed the whole of his property to Mr. George Burbage, the proprietor of the paper on which he had spent nearly the whole of his life.

May 26.—Election of members for the town, arising from a dissolution of Parliament. The candidates were, Robert Smith, Esq. (Whig), Daniel Parker Coke, Esq. (Tory), and Peter Crompton, Esq., M.D., of Derby (Radical). The latter candidate was nominated by John Wright, Esq., who had himself been requested to stand, but declined the honour. At the close, on the third day, the result was thus: Mr. Smith, 1210; Mr. Coke, 1069; Dr. Crompton, 561.

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"This contention," says Blackner, "arose out of the political events of the day, which then split the country into factions; Whig and Tory both changing sides, according as they were influenced by the love of freedom, or the fear of losing their property: the French Revolution was an object of admiration to one part of the people, and of terror to another. Mr. Smith having been induced (as was generally believed) by his private friendship with Mr. Pitt, to join the war party, many of his old friends determined to oppose him; and Dr. Crompton was prevailed upon to be the instrument in their hands. It was not Mr. Smith, properly speaking, that they opposed, but the war."

The contest was attended by repeated disturbances and breaking of windows. At its close, the rankling hostility broke forth violently. The friends of Dr. Crompton were anxious to escort him out of the town, on his way to Derby, to protect him as much as possible from personal insult and injury, it having been hinted that several hundred Loyalists, who had demolished the windows of the Blackmoor's Head inn, where the Doctor had been staying, intended following up their exertions by giving him "a drubbing." The Democrats, to repel force by force, concealed upon their persons short truncheons, some of which were charged at the upper end with lead, and thus secretly armed, sallied forth, with the Doctor in their midst. The collision commenced in the narrow part of Chapel-bar, where the Loyalists, eager for the fray, rushed upon their opponents. One side being well provided with weapons, and the other but indifferently so, the conflict in the Bar was short, and the Loyalists fled to the Three Horse Shoes tavern, a little way up the hill, with the intention of arming themselves more completely, and punishing "the Jacobins." In a very few seconds the Democrats broke every pane on the premises, and as the tavern could not contain a twentieth part of those who rushed towards it, the engagement recommenced, and was continued with augmented numbers, till the Doctor was conveyed unhurt beyond the Sand-hills, and then suffered to pursue his journey in peace. Words, however, can scarcely convey an idea of the desperate nature of the conflict. Palisades were torn up, stones were projected, and the injury to life and limb was excessive. The rout of the Loyalists was complete, and the Democrats looked upon the day as one of the proudest in their lives.

June 7.—Election for the county. The late members having retired, Lord William Bentinck (Whig), and Evelyn Pierrepont, Esq., (Tory), were chosen as their successors. The chairing was particularly gay. Lord William Bentinck's chair was covered with white satin and yellow silk ribbons; and the chair of his colleague, Mr. Pierrepont, was entirely covered with blue. The customary practice of suffering the people to destroy the chairs was observed sooner than was usual or altogether pleasant; but both the members succeeding in reaching their respective inns, without either insult or injury.

About three o'clock, the honourable gentlemen and their friends dined together in the greatest apparent friendship, at Thurland Hall. 1796

June 22.—Mr. Smith, M.P., banker, elevated to the dignity of an Irish Baron, under the title of Lord Carington.

August 13.—As a number of workmen were engaged in pulling down the Ten-arch bridge on what is now termed the Flood-road, preparatory to the raising of the present structure, the old bridge having been rendered unserviceable by the great flood of '95, a lamentable accident took place. The contractor for the works (John Bradshaw, Gent., of Old Sneinton, the father of the late Mr. Job Bradshaw, of the *Journal* office), and a number of his men, were standing upon the second and third arches, employed in demolishing the first. No sooner had it given way, than the two next fell in also with a most fearful crash, precipitating Mr. Bradshaw and his men, with extreme violence, into the cavities filled with water beneath. Three of the workmen were buried in the fallen mass; the contractor and the others fortunately escaped with a few bruises. The bodies of two of the sufferers, James Barnes and Thomas Smedley, were soon extricated from the ruins, but life was wholly extinct. The remains of the third, John Scott, could not be found till the next day, though drags were made use of, and every possible effort put forth. In the morning, a steam-engine, which had been erected for the purpose of throwing out the water, to enable the bricklayers to get at the foundations, was set to work, and in course of the afternoon, the body was found.

The scene of this melancholy occurrence drew together a large crowd of spectators, upon whom there seemed to rest an awful sensation of terror. The jury at the Coroner's inquest came to the conclusion that the occurrence was purely accidental.

An Act of Parliament, bearing date the 19th day of May, 1796, had been obtained, entitled "An Act for raising, maintaining, and keeping in repair, the road from the north end of the Old Trent-bridge to the west end of St. Mary's church-yard, by the way of Hollow-stone, in the town of Nottingham; and for erecting and maintaining such and so many flood bridges upon the said road, as may be necessary to carry off the flood water; and for widening and improving the entrance to the town."

August 26.—The Mayor and Magistrates issued an official notice, in which they stated that, "the disposition to tumultuous excesses which they observe to be extremely prevalent in the town (notwithstanding the repeated public declarations of their abhorrence of it), compels them to put a period to proceedings which, exciting terror and alarm in the minds of many of the most respectable inhabitants of the town, must receive the condemnation of every rational friend to its peace and tranquility. It is therefore their determination to take away the license from every public-house proved to entertain company in it after

1796 eleven o'clock at night; and they request that all masters of families will be particularly attentive to keep their servants and apprentices within doors at an early period of the evening."

Political differences ran so high as to lead to frequent personal collisions, especially in an evening, under the influence of Sir John Barleycorn. The minds of the working classes had but recently been awakened to the importance of studying their social and national position, and it is scarcely to be wondered, that in the new-born zeal after truth, and the warlike spirit of the times, differences of opinion should lead to overt acts of personal hostility.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman William Howitt entered upon the office of Mayor a third time.

October 4.—The Clydesdale Fencibles succeeded at the Barracks by the Royal Irish Horse Guards, or 3rd Dragoons.

On the 23rd two troops of the Dragoons left for London, and were succeeded by two of the Somersetshire Fencible Cavalry.

In the following month, the Essex Fencible Cavalry marched into the town for the winter.

November.—The extraordinary exertions to place the country in what was thought a sufficient state of defence against the anticipated French invasion, still continued. In addition to recruiting parties for the regiments already specified, another local corps entered the field. The government had given permission to James Murray, Esq., of the 90th Regiment, to raise a corps of one thousand men, "all brave and spirited volunteers," of which he was to be Major and Commandant, under the designation of "The Loyal Nottinghamshire Foresters." The head-quarters was Mr. Edenborough's, the New 'Change.

As a specimen of the extravagant misrepresentations held forth to recruits entering regiments of the line, the local newspaper supplies the following evidently satirical address, *said* to have been given by an English officer:—"I will lead you into a country where the rivers consist of fine nut brown ale—where the houses are built of hot roast beef—and the wainscots papered with pancakes. There, my boys, it rains plum-pudding every Sunday morning—the streets are paved with quartern loaves—and nice roasted pigs run about, with knives and forks stuck in their rumps, crying out, 'Who will eat me? Who will eat me?'"

Several hundred of our townsmen entered "the National Defence Force," which consisted of 60,000 men, embodied all over the country, for the specific purpose of resisting any French invasion. The persons enrolled were only liable to be called out and exercised within their own counties for the space of twenty days, unless in the event of an actual invasion, or the immediate expectation of one; and the nature of the service rendered the corps decidedly popular.

December 29.—Death of the Rev. Thomas Hanby, at his residence adjoining Hockley chapel. A tablet to his memory records that he was "a zealous advocate for the Lord's Supper among the Methodists; from whom bigotry and human policy had long withheld that privilege." He died in the 64th year of his age, and the 43rd of his ministry. 1796

John Barber, Esq., of Bilborough, near Nottingham, a gentleman who is said to have "spent a fortune of £50,000 in mechanism, and in permitting knaves to impose on his credulity," obtained a patent for making double-lap stocking stitch-work upon the warp frame. From the article produced by this invention being as stout as a blanket, when made of good worsted, and being without the property inherent in that article of contracting in size after being wet, Mr. Barber conceived the idea of converting it into sailors' jackets, which, in his opinion, would be warmer and more pliable than those in general use. He applied to the Lords of the Admiralty, and the jackets were adopted in the navy; and the sailors who fought at Trafalgar were clothed in the manufacture of Nottinghamshire.

Mr. Benjamin Darker, an industrious and respectable needle-maker of Nottingham, built about this period the first house of what is now called New Radford.

Up to this time there was an ordinary stile leading into a field near the site of the Sir John Borlase Warren inn. Between this stile and Radford old church, now the seat of a dense population, there was nothing to meet the eye but fields and gardens.

Blackner, in his History of Nottingham, gives the subjoined graphic description of a visit he made at this period to the Peverel Gaol at Lenton. He says, "Shortly after the writer of these pages became a resident in Nottingham, he went with a friend one morning in February, to see what havoc stern winter had made in the Coffee-house gardens at Lenton, which had been represented to him as a kind of Paradise in the summer season; being unconscious, at that time, that one of the most wretched mansions of human misery stood within their precincts. Several robins were fluttering upon the keenly frozen snow, in quest of scattered crumbs; and a blackbird, all shivering with cold, was hopping from spray to spray—the wind whistled, and bleak, from the north-east, the angry blast blew. While walking in pensive admiration, his ears were stricken with the sound of a human voice, the tremulous cadence of which bespoke the anguish of the bosom whence it came. These were the words which it uttered: 'God bless you, master! pray relieve a poor prisoner, famishing for want of food, and trembling with cold!' A clap of thunder would not have made so deep an impression on the memory—death alone can remove that impression from the heart. Hastily turning about, a man appeared peeping through a hole in a door, with a beard of four weeks' growth upon his face, which

1796 was otherwise haggard and meagre—his eye-balls glaring with anxiety, and his body sparingly clad with filthy rags. What! a prison in a pleasure-garden! was the first exclamation that presented itself. And pray what is your offence my poor man and what are your means of subsistence? 'My offence,' replied the victim, 'is that of running 25s. in debt, when my family was nearly perishing with hunger, during last year's famine (1795), and which I have not been able to pay; and my means of subsistence (while, with a look which was half sarcastic and half expressive of his sufferings, he pointed towards a pump), my means of subsistence are all within that well, except a few scraps which the keeper pleases to give me for cleaning his knives and shoes.' What! is it to be borne that, in what is called a land of liberty, a human being is to be incarcerated within four walls, without bread, and without fire? '*That is all*,' replied the prisoner, still pointing towards the pump; 'and, as my wife and children are now supported by the parish, not one of them can come near me, to cheer me with a smile.'

1797.

1797 *February*.—The suspension of cash payments by the Bank of England produced in Nottingham, in common with other parts of the country, very disastrous effects. It occasioned the stoppage of immense numbers of frames for want of cash to go on with, nor could the ordinary business of the town be carried on until the local bankers issued a quantity of seven shilling tickets.

February.—The Nottinghamshire Militia, after being quartered a short time at York, removed to Market Weighton, Bridlington, Driffeld, Hornsea, and adjacent places, to be ready to repel any attack of the enemy on that part of the coast.

April 4.—The Nottinghamshire Provisional Cavalry (a regiment distinct from any hitherto mentioned) of the town of Nottingham, and of the hundreds of Bingham, Rushcliffe, and the south division of Broxtowe, assembled near the Race Stand, "to be mustered pursuant to Act of Parliament." Of 105 names called over, 103 were responded to.

April 4.—An accident attended the departure of the Pembroke Fencible cavalry from the Barracks in the Park. A quantity of loose gunpowder in an open cask, and a number of cartridges in a bag, had been placed in the barrack master's office, and accidentally taking fire, blew the roof off and greatly damaged the adjoining store-room. The barrack-sergeant was nearly killed, but his son, who was with him, though blown with great force against the officers' house, a distance of twenty-five yards, was comparatively uninjured.

April 10.—A public meeting, called together by Mr. John Fellows, of the High-pavement, Mr. Wm. Dawson street

Mr. John Wyer, Castle-gate, Mr. T. Rawson, St. James's-street, Mr. Charles Homer, of the Exchange, Mr. Thos. Simpson, Goose-gate, and Mr. Francis Bestow, Hounds-gate, and attended by about four thousand persons, was held before the Malt Cross, in the Market-place, to petition the King for the removal of his Ministers, as a preliminary step to peace. Mr. Fellows was called upon to preside, and a resolution embodying the purport of the meeting was moved by Mr. F. Wakefield and Mr. Robt. Davison, and unanimously adopted. The petition received five thousand signatures.

On the 20th, the Corporation agreed to a similar memorial.

August 2.—John Milner, aged 47 years, was tried at the County Hall, before the Hon. Sir W. H. Ashhurst, Knt., on a charge of stealing three cows, the property of Mr. John Vessey, of Rufford, and being found guilty, received sentence of death.

An unfortunate incident attended his execution on the 16th. He had hung a few seconds, when the knot of the rope gave way, and he fell heavily to the ground. Upon being raised up, and the preparations for his suspension commencing afresh, he seemed painfully conscious of his situation, and exclaimed, "My God, this is hard work!" Either from the inefficiency of the hangman, or some cause unexplained, several minutes elapsed ere the preliminaries were re-adjusted; and it was not until a ropemaker named Godber pushed the blundering functionary aside, and tied the man up himself, that the cart was a second time driven away. The execrations of the spectators at the executioner were very loud and general.

Milner was a native of Eakring, and was a very stout, broad-set man, nearly six feet in height. His body was buried the same day in St. Mary's church-yard.

September.—A Mr. Redfern commenced running a packet-boat for the conveyance of passengers, twice a week, between Nottingham and Cromford. The fare was 5s. best cabin, and 3s. second best. Passengers were taken to Leicester, in a similar boat, first room, 5s., second, 2s. 6d., starting from Mr. Maddock's, the Navigation Tavern.

September 27.—Colonel Williams, of the Marines, who had lived in Nottingham some time with a recruiting party, was accidentally drowned. He was taking his customary morning ride along the hauling-path on the bank of the Trent, in Beeston Meadow, and was endeavouring to open a double-gate, when, in backing his horse, the animal slipped down the bank, and both were carried into the river. The horse swam to the side and got out, but the Colonel perished. His remains were interred in St. Mary's church.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Joseph Lowe re-entered upon the office of Mayor.

October 3.—Lord Carington, M.P., being elevated to the English Peerage, a vacancy arose in the representation of the town.

1797 *October 10.*—The Rev. Thomas Trueman, General Baptist minister at Quorndon, and a native of Nottingham, was accidentally killed by a horse running against him in the dark, about a mile from Loughborough. He was 30 years of age, and was buried at Quorndon.

October 16.—News arrived of Admiral Duncan's great victory over the Dutch fleet. The enthusiasm of former days had subsided, and almost the only public demonstrations of joy was given by the Scots Greys, then stationed here, who fired three volleys in the Market-place, and at night illuminated the Barracks.

November 11.—Sir J. B. Warren (Tory) elected member for the town, without opposition.

December.—Radford and Lenton inclosures having appropriated parts of the Race-course, a public subscription was opened for the formation of a new one, within the town limits. The Duke of Portland contributed 100 guineas, Mr. Pierrepont, M.P., 50, Mr. R. L. Saville 50, Sir J. B. Warren, M.P., 25, and Mr. Foljambe 10.

December.—A pauper died in St. Mary's workhouse who had resided in it a considerable time, and had always been regarded as a male and the father of a family, several illegitimate children having been sworn to *him*, who, on being laid out, was found to be most unmistakeably a woman! She had formerly figured on the turf, under the cognomen of "Jockey John," and had been a groom in the service of Sir Harry Harpur.

December 28.—At half-past eleven p.m., a thermometer (Fahrenheit's) placed by Mr. Hancock on the Tinker's Leen-bridge, four feet above the ground, indicated the temperature to be three degrees below zero. One of the coldest nights of which we have any record.

The Canal from the river Trent to Grantham was opened this year.

The Butt-dyke (Park-row) was appropriated as building ground.

The body of Nonconformists known as the Methodist New Connexion, originated this year, in a secession from the Wesleyan Methodists. As Nottingham was one of the principal centres of the agitation, it is necessary to present an outline of the leading causes of the disruption.

During the life of the Rev. J. Wesley, all the preachers and societies were under his authority and control. The preachers were his assistants, and the members his spiritual children; and though the community became very numerous, to the end of his protracted career he continued to exercise supreme authority. Many of the preachers, trustees, and other friends, who had suffered their dissatisfaction with this state of things to give way under the consideration of Mr. Wesley's unsullied character and venerable age, fully expected that after his death the constitution of the community would be adapted to the requirements of

they deemed to be Christian freedom and enlightened policy ; but finding that instead of the rule of Mr. Wesley, they had the equally objectionable sway of an irresponsible Conference, composed entirely of preachers, their dissatisfaction acquired intensity and strength. 1797

Among other causes were,—the refusal of the Conference to permit the members to participate in the ordinance of the Lord's Supper, except when administered by a clergyman ordained by a Bishop of the Established Church ; the rejection of memorials for the redress of grievances ; the expulsion of the Rev. A. Kilham, one of the "reform" leaders, &c.

But the cause which more directly appealed to the minds of the seceders in Nottingham, was the unsatisfactory control exercised over financial matters. The preachers, they alleged, though incessantly collecting money for Connexional purposes, never by right, and seldom even by courtesy, submitted their accounts to "lay inspection." One case is cited as an illustration. In 1791, the superintendent of the circuit, the Rev. J. Moon, collected a large subscription to provide the preachers' houses in Hockley, which had been recently built, with suitable furniture. No account being rendered, and the principal friends, in the course of private conversation, ascertaining that they had contributed much more liberally than the altered appearance of the houses denoted, felt it their duty to respectfully invite an explanation, assuming that Mr. Moon had either expended the money with a sad want of discretion, or that part of it had been diverted to other objects. The only reply they could extort was, "Brethren, I am alone responsible to God and the Conference."

When the division took place, the number of members in the Nottingham circuit was 1,400 ; and in the town society, 600. Of the latter, 320, including a majority of the trustees, and nearly the whole of the influential and wealthy, went with the seceders, and retaining possession of the chapel in Hockley, left the Conference party without a place of worship. The members in the country places for the most part discountenanced the movement.

"The Old Methodists," as they began now to be called in contradistinction to the "New," when deprived of their chapel, worshipped at first in Beck Barn, and subsequently in the old Tabernacle, at such hours as the General Baptists did not require it. In a few months, however, through the spirited exertions of the late Mr. Tatham, who, with the sanction of the Wesleyan executive, traversed the whole country in search of subscriptions, they were in a position to build a chapel, and having induced Mr. Fellows to sell them a part of the garden at the back of his mansion, they erected a structure in Halifax-place, on the site of the present handsome and commodious building. The New Connexion continued to worship in Hockley till 1817, when they were dispossessed of it by a suit in the Court of Chancery, Mr. Wesley having had it duly secured to his successors, the Conference. In

1797 preparation for the event, the New Connexion had erected a chapel in Parliament-street. This chapel was afterwards considerably enlarged, and was rebuilt in 1874.

Though many of the alleged grievances which led to the division were afterwards redressed, the New Connexion still differs from the parent body in the more popular constitution of its church government—the preachers and the lay-deputies, chosen by the people, being associated in all meetings for business. In the doctrines taught by the two communities there is no appreciable difference.

1798.

1798 The Nottingham Volunteer Infantry was raised about this period. It consisted of three companies, commanded respectively by John Stanford Elliott, Esq., Lieut.-Colonel, James Hooley, Esq., Major, and Samuel Statham, Esq., Captain. There were likewise two country companies that acted along with them, one called the Burton and the other the Clifton company. The whole were under the command of Samuel Smith, Esq., banker, as Lieut.-Colonel Commandant. Ostensibly, each company consisted of one hundred men, but the whole never amounted to five hundred. Their uniform was a dark blue light infantry jacket, turned up with scarlet and trimmed with gold lace, white pantaloons and short gaiters, a light horseman's helmet, and white feathers. They had neither knapsacks, great coats, nor canteens; nor were they ever taken out of the town on permanent duty. This corps was broken up in April, 1802, in consequence of the peace of Amiens.

March.—A voluntary subscription of considerable magnitude was made in the town and county, for “the support of the Government and the defence of the country.”

March 6.—The Habeas Corpus Act again suspended.

May 1.—The Royal Scots Greys were succeeded at the Barracks by the Third, or King's Own Heavy Dragoons.

May.—The Nottinghamshire Militia encamped at Dimlington in Holderness.

May 20.—Death of William, Lord Byron, of Newstead Abbey, aged 85 years. His Lordship fought the fatal duel with Mr. Chaworth. He was succeeded in his title and estate by his great-nephew, the immortal Byron.

July.—The gentlemen of the Nottingham Troop of Yeomanry Cavalry commenced the erection of the Riding School near the Castle Lodge, by means of a voluntary subscription. It is now used as a Drill Room by the Robin Hood Rifle Volunteers.

August.—Death of Mr. George Maddock, grocer, Chapel-bar. His body was so extremely corpulent, as to render it necessary for his friends to have it drawn on a hurdle to ~~Ridgeway~~ family place of interment. His coffin measured th

inches in breadth, and two feet nine inches in depth. His age 1798 was 49 years.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Thomas Oldknow elected Mayor. Mr. Oldknow died at his residence in the Coppice, Jan. 16, 1817, aged 72 years.

October 3.—The mail brought intelligence of Nelson's great victory over the French fleet near the mouth of the Nile. "It being just the height of the fair," said the local journalist, "and a great number of people in the town, owing to the fineness of the day, the news was received with the most rapturous enthusiasm; the bells immediately began, the flags hoisted on the different churches, and bonfires soon blazed in the streets; shortly after the drums beat round for the Nottingham Volunteers to attend parade at the Castle, where a strong muster soon appeared with blue cockades in their hats, and from thence proceeded, with their band, headed by the Town Troop of Yeomanry Cavalry, to the Market-place, and a square being formed, they fired three most excellent volleys, which was followed by repeated huzzas from the thousands of spectators present: indeed, such a scene of loyalty and rejoicing was never witnessed on any former occasion. Next day, the bells again began ringing, and continued at intervals during the day; two sheep were roasted and distributed to the populace, and the rest of the week bids fair to end in similar rejoicings."

A public subscription was afterwards received at the local banks for the relief of the seamen and marines who were wounded in the engagement, and for the widows and children of those that were killed.

October 29.—Arrival of tidings of Sir J. B. Warren's victory off the coast of Ireland. A French squadron of nine ships of the line, destined for the invasion of Ireland, were dispersed, and La Hoche, of 84 guns, and five frigates, captured. "This glorious news," says the *Journal*, "was received here on Monday last, in the most rapturous and loyal manner; the bells were immediately rung and continued without intermission during the day, and all ranks seemed to enjoy the event which saved the sister kingdom from the horrors of a second invasion, which in a few hours longer the enemy would have been enabled to accomplish, had it not been for the unwearied exertions of our gallant Representative. About five o'clock, the Nottingham Volunteers marched from the Park to the Market-place, where they fired three volleys and a *feu de joie* in honour of the victory: in the evening a great number of the principal inhabitants illuminated their houses, which, no doubt, had there been more notice, would have been more general; but it was concluded to have another on Tuesday evening, which we are happy in saying was as universal as it was possible to make it; indeed, the town seemed one continued blaze from one end to the other, and the streets crowded with spectators, attending the wetness of the evening. A great number of

- 1798 beautiful transparencies were exhibited, but our limits will not permit a particular description. A number of sheep were roasted in the streets, and distributed to the populace, who behaved in the most peaceable and loyal manner. At every village in this neighbourhood similar rejoicings took place."

December 20.—Died, at the Methodist preachers' house, in Hockley, the Rev. Alexander Kilham, one of the founders of the New Connexion. He enjoyed the esteem of a large number of friends, and was a native of Epworth, the birth-place of the Rev. J. Wesley, by whom he was ordained to the work of the ministry. His death was caused by the rupture of a blood vessel, at the age of 36, and his last hours were peaceful and happy. His remains were interred within the walls of Hockley chapel, exactly on the opposite side of the building to the resting-place of his revered friend, the Rev. T. Hanby. An appropriate marble monument was erected over his ashes by the Connexion, but on the premises reverting to the Old community, it was removed to the chapel in Parliament-street. Mr. Kilham's remains, however, were not disturbed.

1799.

- 1799 *January 18.*—Death of Mr. William Towle, draper, Long-row, and one of the Nottingham Troop of Yeomanry, much and deservedly respected. At his burial at Sawley, the following Tuesday, the Troop of which he was a member attended in full military procession. First in order, were fourteen Carbineers, followed by the horse of the deceased, properly habited, and led by two gentlemen on foot, each carrying a white wand; then came the body in a hearse, and carriages containing members of his family and friends, a great number of mourners on horseback, and lastly, the members of his Troop. He died of apoplexy, in his 28th year.

April 15.—The Nottingham Volunteer Infantry and Cavalry had a grand field day, and were honoured with the presence of Admiral Sir J. B. Warren, M.P., who had entered one of the corps as a sergeant. The evolutions attracted several thousand spectators.

June 4.—Celebration of the King's birthday. "Early in the morning," says the local journalist, "the Nottingham Volunteers paraded near the town, from whence they marched, the Troop of Gentlemen Yeomanry preceding, and the Holme and Bunny Troops of Volunteer Cavalry following, to the Market-place, where they were formed in regular order on the one side, and the King's Own Dragoons on the other, and the above Cavalry made up the square. Captain Wright's Troop of Yeomanry Cavalry began the evolutions of the day by going through the Hungarian broad-

sword exercise, and were followed by the other two troops of Cavalry; which they performed in such a manner as must ever reflect upon them the highest praise. This part of the ceremony being over, three volleys were fired by the King's Dragoons, and three by the Loyal Nottingham Volunteer Infantry. Several excellent dinners were provided at the different inns, where large parties dined; an elegant dinner was also provided at the new Riding School, where nearly eighty dined, and kept up the hilarity of the day to a very late hour. In the evening, by invitation from the Mayor, a vast number of gentlemen of the town assembled in the Town Hall, where numerous loyal toasts went briskly round."

June 11.—The King's Own Regiment of Dragoons left the Barracks for Windsor, and the Fourth, or Queen's Bays, succeeded them.

June 19.—The first division of the Nottinghamshire Militia marched from Edinburgh, where they had been quartered, for Glasgow.

July 12.—James Brodie, a blind man, aged 23 years, was arraigned at the County Hall, before Mr. Justice Heath, charged with the wilful murder of his guide, a boy named Robert Henesal.

It came out in evidence, that the prisoner was an Irishman, and travelled about England subsisting entirely on the alms of the benevolent. The mother of his victim appeared in the witness box, and stated that, being very poor, Brodie had induced her, when at her house in Leeds, for the sake of a small sum of money, to let him have the lad as a guide. The boy happening to offend him on the road between Mansfield and Farnsfield, he killed him by repeated blows with a stick, and then artfully concealed the body in a quantity of ling. While the Judge was sentencing him to be hung, he was extremely violent, and endeavoured by every possible means to kick and bite all within his reach.

Being a Roman Catholic, Brodie was attended to the place of execution by the Rev. Lawrence Boyne, of the chapel in King's-place, Stoney-street. The rev. gentleman was successful in subduing his hardened disposition, and when at the gallows extorted from him a full confession. He said that at first he had no intention of killing the lad, but being contradicted and provoked, he struck at him with his stick, and passion having the ascendancy of reason, he continued beating him till, to his horror, he found him to be dead. He then covered him over as well as he could with ling and left him, and wandered by himself about the Forest till he was observed by a gentleman on the road, who rode up to him, and inquired the meaning of his perplexity, and what had become of the boy he had seen with him a few days previously? "I replied," continued Brodie, "that I had lifted the lad upon the stump;" "if he could see Mansfield, when he fell, that (pointing in the direction "there, dying." After this

1799 confession, he several times begged for five minutes' respites, and such was his dread of death, that he made use of a number of petty artifices to prolong his existence. At last, finding that no no further *ruse* would avail, he threw himself out of the cart in a rage, and terminated his career.

Pursuant to the terms of his sentence, the body was submitted to dissection, and was afterwards publicly exposed at the County Hall. Crowds of men, women, and children indulged their morbid curiosity by thronging the scene of this most repulsive spectacle. The mutilated and frightfully excoriated corpse lay extended on a long table, with no other covering than a loose white cloth thrown over the loins. Words can scarcely give an idea of the coarse and brutal jests, the obscene remarks, and the horrid and blasphemous oaths, to which the display gave rise. It naturally drew together the most depraved and abandoned classes of the community, and would almost equal in moral blackness, one of Dante's visions of the infernal regions.

Brodie was a native of Dublin, and lost his sight by an attack of the small pox in his infancy. His parents were by trade check-weavers, and in poor circumstances. As a means of gaining a livelihood, he for some time turned a wheel at a manufactory, but becoming tired of his monotonous employment, he managed to save money sufficient to bring him over to this country, and commenced the life of an itinerant beggar. The victim of his cruelty was eight years of age.

July.—Three hundred of the Nottinghamshire Militia, stationed at Glasgow, volunteered their services into regiments of the line, and were transferred accordingly.

August 9.—Death of Mr. Walter Merrey, aged 75 years. This gentleman was a native of York, and was apprenticed to a surgeon in Nottingham. His master, however, dying soon after the indentures were signed, Merrey's services were transferred to a person who followed the united businesses of hosier and wool-comber, an amalgamation by no means uncommon in the early days of framework-knitting, and one which Merrey himself practised, at his premises in Castle-gate. He was remarkable for his attainments in numismatics, and had an immense collection of ancient coins. In 1794, he published a treatise on the coinage of England from the earliest period of authentic record. It contained much novel and interesting information on the Roman coins, and is still regarded as an authority.

August 6.—Died, at the White Lion inn, Nottingham, the Right Hon. Frederick Thomas Wentworth, Earl of Strafford. His Lordship, on retiring to rest the previous evening, instructed his servant to call him up at eight in the morning, appearing in his usual good state of health; but in the morning, on his attendant entering the room, the noble Lord was found to be dead. The cause was ascertained to be apoplexy. His Lordship's age was 67 years, and his body was removed on the 14th interment at Henbury, in Dorsetshire.

August 30.—The Fourth, or Queen's Own Dragoons, succeeded at the Barracks by five troops of the Oxford Blues. 1799

September 29.—Mr. Ald. Joseph Oldknow elected Mayor; Mr. Jonathan Dunn, bookseller, and Mr. Hall, of Basford, Sheriffs; and Mr. H. Enfield and Mr. G. Nelson, Chamberlains.

September 30.—Presentation of colours to the Loyal Nottingham Volunteer Infantry and Cavalry. Early in the morning, the troops assembled on parade in the Castle-yard, from whence they proceeded in military order to the Market-place, where a square had been formed for their reception by gentlemen of the Yeomanry Cavalry. An interior square was immediately formed by the corps, a detachment from which was sent to the house of Samuel Smith, Esq., Colonel, South-parade, to escort the ladies and the chaplain, the Rev. Mr. Beaumont. The Royal standard was then presented in the name of Mrs. Sedley, by Colonel Eyre, and the provincial standard in the name of Lady Warren, by the Hon. Henry Sedley. W. C. Sherbrooke, Esq., delivered the Cavalry standard in a similar manner. The Chaplain, in the course of his consecration address, observed, "I must beg your patient attention for a few moments, whilst I recur to the motives which have induced us to form ourselves into this military array. The two grounds of our association were, the preservation of domestic tranquility, and the determination to repel foreign invasion. I may without vanity congratulate you on the first of these objects having by our means been attained; and as a proof of it, I will quote to you the remark of a gentleman who I believe is now present, not less eminent for skill in his profession than for the accuracy of his observation and experience. His remark was this: 'That he had lived seventeen years in the town of Nottingham, and during that period there had been seventeen riots,' which on an average is a riot once a year. Eighteen months have elapsed since the corps has been embodied, and there has not appeared the smallest symptom of disturbance. Much praise is certainly due to the Nottingham Troop of Yeomanry Cavalry for their spirited exertions. In short, the disaffected part of our community are aware that an arm is raised up to chastise and to repress every attempt to violate the public peace." At the close of the ceremonial, the volunteers fired three volleys, and were exercised five or six hours in the Park. "The corps," proceeds the record, "returned from the Park to the Riding School, and sat down to the most splendid dinner imaginable, and were honoured with the presence of military and other gentlemen, which made the number who dined amount to between six and seven hundred. The tables were graced with the choicest rarities, including five fat bucks, the gifts of Lord Middleton, Lord Newark, Sir Thos. Parkyns, the Hon. Henry Sedley, and John Musters, Esq. At night, the building was brilliantly illuminated with variegated lamps, and the officers gave a grand ball at the Assembly Rooms."

1799

Subjoined are lists of the officers of the respective corps:—
The Nottingham Troop of Yeomanry Cavalry—Capt. Commandant, Ichabod Wright, Esq.; Lieutenant, William Middlemore, Esq.; Cornet, Alex. Hadden, Esq.; Quarter-Master, Mr. John James; Sergeants, Messrs. David Cooley, Wilkinson, John Deakin, Wm. Sanday, William Lowe, and William Pepper; Riding Master, John Newman. *The Nottingham Volunteer Infantry*—Colonel Commandant, Samuel Smith, Esq.; Lieut.-Col., with a Company, John Elliott, Esq.; Major, with a Company, James Hooley, Esq.; Captain, Samuel Statham, Esq.; Captain-Lieutenant, Mr. Taylor; Lieutenant and Adjutant, Mr. Nixon; Lieutenants, Mr. E. Bardsley and Mr. Holdsworth; and Ensigns, Messrs. Samuel Lawson, Wm. Roe, and George Stretton.

October.—The Nottinghamshire Fencibles were engaged in quelling disturbances at Youghall, Fermoy, Dungarvan, Bandon, and Dungannon. Bandon was the head-quarters of the Regiment.

One hundred and fifty privates, and several officers, of the Notts. Militia, stationed at Glasgow, volunteered into the 35th Regiment.

December.—The following is believed to be a complete list of the inns and public-houses in the town, at the close of the century, 156 in number, forming an interesting and in some respects valuable record:—John Acton, Jolly Bargeman, Leen-side; Samuel Adams, Star and Garter, Wheeler-gate; — Astill, Three Crowns, Chapel-bar; Richard Austin, Castle, Hounds-gate; Chas. Baxter, Cordwainers' Arms, Tollhouse-hill; Mrs. Baxter, Masons' Arms, Woolpack-lane; — Beardmore, Bear and Dragon, Long-row; Benjamin Beardsall, King on Horseback, King-street; — Beeson, Ball, Long-row; Joshua Bennet, Salutation, Jew-lane; Thomas Bowles, Peach Tree, Parliament-street; — Boyton, Horse and Chaise, Sandy-lane; John Bradfield, Shoulder of Mutton, Carter-gate; William Bradley, Crown, Long-row; John Brazier, Union Flag, Stoney-street; Joseph Brightmore, Black Lion, Cherry-orchard; Robert Brown, Butterfly, Paravicini-row; Oliver Buck, Cricket Players, Barker-gate; Joseph Burbage, Ball, St. Peter's-square; William Caler, Carpenters' Arms, York-road; — Chapman, Bear, Long-row; — Chapman, Globe, Poynton-street; Rd. Clark, Horse and Groom, Cow-lane; Thomas Clarkson, Hare and Hounds, Cherry-orchard; William Collinson, George and Dragon, Long-row; — Cooke, Bull, Chapel-bar; Robert Crane, Feathers, Wheeler-gate; John Clayton, Royal Children, Castle-gate; Robt. Daft, Lord Nelson, Warser-gate; Robert Dann, Ten Bells, Narrow-marsh; Mrs. Darlow, King's Head, Narrow-marsh; Thomas Denham, Golden Ball, Cow-lane; Henry Dennis, Ball, Coalpit-lane; Joseph Dennis, Duke of York, New-buildings; James Edenborough, Punch Bowl, Exchange; Samuel Elliott, Half Moon, Carter-gate; Thomas Ely, Bell, Parliament-street; Mrs. Elsa, Crown and Cushion, Blowbadder-street; Richard Farran, Masons' Arms, New Buildings; — Fieldwick, Three !

Shoes, Tollhouse-hill; John Galloway, Sir J. B. Warren, New-buildings; Michael Gedling, Bird in the Hand, Sheep-lane; Thos. Gimson, Ship, Gridlesmith-gate; William Green, Shoulder of Mutton, Sandy-lane; Mrs. Haddock, Roebuck, James's-lane; — Hall, Dolphin, Chapel-bar; William Hall, Three Cranes, Turncalf-alley; Richard Handley, Cross Keys, Mary-gate; Wm. Hardy, Maypole, Long-row; Charles Heald, Golden Fleece, Middle-pavement; John Henshaw, Barley Mow, Narrow-marsh; William Hitchin, White Lion, Long-row; Joseph Hodgkinson, White Hart, Parliament-street; John Holt, Barley Mow, Week-day-cross; Richard Hooton, Ball, Fisher-gate; Richard Hooton, White Hart, New-buildings; Mrs. Hoyle, Dog and Bear, Bridlesmith-gate; Samuel Hughes, Balloon, Mount-pleasant; William Johnson, Shoulder of Mutton, Smithy-row; George Jenkinson, Dog, Castle-gate; Mrs. Killer, Punch Bowl, Peck-lane; Joseph Killingley, Jolly Angler, Bellar-gate; Thomas Kirk, Hearty Good Fellow, Bearward-lane; Daniel Lacey, Rose, Bridlesmith-gate; Benjamin Lane, Sir John Falstaff, Carter-gate; Mrs. Lart, Bell, Angel-row; John Lee, Robin Hood, Hockley; Job Levers, Cross Keys, Byard-lane; — Leonard, Horse, Sandy-lane; Mrs. Lockton, Old Angel,* High-pavement; Thomas Lockton, Spread Eagle, Long-row; Thomas Lord, White Hart, Boot-lane; John Lowd, White Hart, Charlotte-street; William Machin, Nag's Head, Smithy-row; Robert Mackley, Black Boy, Long-row; John Maddock, Navigation Inn, Canal-side; Mrs. Maltby, Kingston's Arms, Parliament-street; Mrs. Mann, White Lion, Hollow-stone; Thos. Martin, Horse and Groom, St. Peter's-square; — Mellor, Royal Oak, Broad-marsh; John Miller, Prince of Wales, Paravicini-row; Joseph Moore, Leathe Bottle, Hockley; Samuel Morley, Shepherd and Shepherdess, Weekday-cross; Robert Morris, Old Angel, Stoney-street; George Morris, Reindeer, Wheeler-gate; Robert Morris, jun., Queen's Head, Charlotte-street; Thomas Morton, Town Arms, Bridge-end; Jacob Mosley, King's Head, Chapel-bar; James Mould, Hanging Gate, Brewhouse-yard; John Nelson, News House, St. James's-lane; John Newton, Cock, New-buildings; John Nixon, Milton's Head, Tollhouse-hill; Mrs. Norton, Dog and Gun, Low-pavement; Joseph Osborne, Anchor, Walnut-tree-lane; William Pacy, Red Lion, Gridlesmith-gate; Mrs. Peniston, Eight Bells, Peter-square; Joseph Perry, Ball, Peck-lane; George Pettny, Plough, Beck-lane; Joseph Pickard, Red Rose, Bellar-gate; Thomas Pilkington, Turk's Head, Hounds-gate; John Pyatt, Trip to Jerusalem, Brewhouse-yard; John Quinton, Black Lion, Castle-gate; William Ragsdale, Three Crowns, Parliament-street; John Redgate, Loggerheads, Narrow-marsh; Francis Richards, Red Cow, Boot-lane; John Robinson, Sir Thomas White, Carter-gate; Mrs. Roe, Bunker's Hill, Parliament-street; Robert Roe, Gibraltar, New-buildings; William

* This was one of the most ancient houses in the town, and in the reign of John was the residence of the distinguished family of the name of Bugge. It stood at the south-west end, and was demolished in 1840.

- 1799 Rowbotham, Flying Horse, Hen-cross ; James Scarr, Hole in the Wall, Warser-gate ; John Scrooby, Royal Oak, Broad-marsh ; Mrs. Selby, White Hart, Narrow-marsh ; John Seymour, Seven Stars, Carter-gate ; Edward Sharp, Sun, Gridlesmith-gate ; John Shaw, Wheat Sheaf, Long-row ; Joseph Shaw, Swan, Beastmarket-hill ; Thomas Simpson, Town Arms, Trent-bridge ; John Simpson, Blackmoor's Head, High-street ; Mrs. Simpson, Artichoke, Pepper-street ; T. Smedley, Falcon, Parliament-street ; — Smedley, Elephant and Castle, Hounds-gate ; Edward Smith, Shakspeare, Boot-lane ; John Smith, Ball, Broad-marsh ; John Spencer, Red Lion, Narrow-marsh ; Mrs. Spencer, Bell, Long-row ; Nathaniel Stevenson, Eagle and Child, Chapel-bar ; — Stevenson, Talbot, Long-row ; John Stevenson, Queen's Head, Hen-cross ; Mrs. Sturt, Black Horse, Stoney-street ; Nathaniel Sully, Golden Fleece, Fisher-gate ; Thomas Sully, Unicorn, Parliament-street ; John Summers, Shoulder of Mutton, High-street ; John Tebbutt, Britannia, Bearward-lane ; John Tilley, Punch Bowl, Middle-hill ; William Tongue, Carpenters' Arms, Castle-gate ; Mrs. Trueman, Noah's Ark, Parliament-street ; Mrs. Twells, Horse and Trumpet, Beck-barn ; John Tubb, Brick Mould, Fisher-gate ; Mrs. Ward, Sawyers' Arms, Greyfriars-gate ; R. Warsop, Robin Hood, Charlotte-street ; Gilbert Wayne, Ram, Long-row ; Thomas Welsh, Red Lion, Bridge-end ; John Wesson, General Elliott, Goose-gate ; Thomas White, Old Parrot, Drury-hill ; George Whitfield, Admiral Jarvis, Wheeler-gate ; John Whitworth, George and Dragon, Boot-lane ; John Wilkins, Flaming Sword, Cherry-orchard ; Samuel Wilkinson, Greyhound, Greyfriars-gate ; Francis Williamson, New George, Parliament-street ; John Wilson, Saracen's Head, Boot-lane ; Joseph Woolfit, Red Rose, Bearward-lane ; Mrs. Wortley, Three Salmons, New-buildings ; Joseph Wright, Peacock, Peter-gate ; Nathaniel Wright, Golden Ball, Barker-gate ; George Wright, Bottle and Glass, Brewhouse-yard ; and Samuel Wragg, Pheasant, Boot-lane.

1800.

January.—A large public subscription was raised for the relief of the sick poor, and the establishment of a public soup-kitchen. 1800

Bread was an article of great scarcity during part of this year. In January, the quartern loaf sold for 1s. 3d.; in February, for 1s. 4d.; in March, 1s. 5d.; in April, 1s. 4d.; in May, 1s. 5d.; in June, 1s. 6½d. (at which time wheat realised from 140s. to 145s. per quarter); and in July, 1s. 6d.

January.—Two divisions of the Nottinghamshire Supplementary Militia marched into the town from the north, and were disembodied.

January 29.—A long contested cause, respecting a right claimed by the Corporation, to levy a toll on all corn sold in the market, was finally determined in the Court of King's Bench. The Court confirmed the verdict given at the last Nottingham assizes, with full costs of suit, by which decision farmers and others were freed from the payment of tolls of an injudicious and vexatious nature.

February.—The Cambridgeshire Militia, stationed in Nottingham, were drawn up in the Market-place, to hear read over to them a letter from the Commander-in-Chief, in which an offer was made to them to enter as volunteers into regiments of the line, on favourable conditions. Thirty of them at once enlisted into the Guards, and 450 into the 46th Regiment of Foot.

March 17.—Abraham Whitaker, aged 45 years, and John Atkinson, aged 35 years, were tried at the County Hall, before Sir Alan Chambre, Knt., on a charge of forgery, and being found guilty, received sentence of death. These men had been accustomed to traverse the country as hawkers of muslins, principally it was said for the purpose of passing spurious Bank of England notes. They had uttered several to Mr. John Greasley, of Stapleford, for which they were pursued and apprehended at Eastwood, and a roll of similarly forged notes was found upon them.

In the night of Tuesday subsequent to their conviction, they were very near effecting their escape. Having been supplied with a knife by one of their friends, they managed to remove the lead which secured the iron stanchions in the window of their cell, and to deceive the turnkey, substituted for it bits of painted wood. With half a pound of butter they had asked for, they contrived to find material for a lamp, to enable them to explore ~~was to the roofs of the adjoining houses, from whence they~~
~~ading to the street, but making too much noise~~

1800 in forcing a passage through a wall, they were overheard by the gaoler, and were heavily chained down in their old quarters.

Through the powerful intercession of his friends, Whitaker, though known to be the principal in the uttering, had his sentence commuted into transportation for life. Atkinson, after a month's respite, was executed on the 16th of April.

Up to this period, the gallows, which was simply two uprights and a transverse beam, about four yards in height, remained permanently on the hill near the summit of the Mansfield-road, as one of the standing "institutions" of the country. Thus, the first object that met the eye of the traveller from the north, on his approach to the town, was the apparatus of death, and it was regarded by many with deep curiosity. Early on the morning of Atkinson's execution, it was found, to the astonishment of the authorities, that in the night-time someone had cut down the gallows, and taken it away. Another had therefore to be immediately erected; and to prevent a repetition of the occurrence the apparatus was made so that it could be taken down as soon as the execution was completed. It was subsequently ascertained that the gallows had been removed by two or three young men, who viewed their performance as a capital joke. Though its beams were of massive oak, its great age and exposure to rough usage and the weather had caused an extensive decay on one side at its junction with the ground, so that its removal was readily accomplished. The remains of it were dragged into the town, and placed on a haystack in Dickinson's stack yard, which occupied part of the site at present bounded by Cross-street and Cur-lane, and near to Portland-place.

Unlike the generality of processions to the place of execution, this of Atkinson's was comparatively unattended by those noisy demonstrations of popular hatred to the prisoner, which served to embitter the last moments of many. It was customary on all such occasions for the unsympathising members of the crowd to seat themselves on any lamp-post, or wall, or eligible position which might present itself, from whence they would salute the criminal as he passed them in the cart, with cries and exclamations, the nature of which was regulated by the idea they might form of the magnitude of his offence. One position in particular was always eagerly contended for. This was a ponderous beam of wood that extended across Clumber-street, from the Long-row to the corner of Pelham-street, from the centre of which was suspended the sign-board of the White Lion inn. On this elevated station a compact row of adventurous fellows were usually perched, to see the object of their curiosity "ride backwards up Cow-lane." On this occasion the man was permitted to pass in silence.

A very general feeling of commiseration was entertained in favour of Atkinson, arising from an impression almost amounting to a certainty, that the two or three £1 notes he had uttered were not known by him to be forged. At the place of death he was

perfectly collected, and neither heaved a sigh nor shed a tear. To the last he persisted in an assertion of his entire innocence.

April.—The Notts. Militia stationed at Dumfries.

April 19.—The high prices of provisions at the market provoked a riot. Early in the afternoon, the people of the lower parts of the town congregated in dense masses in the Market-place, and proceeded to acts of violence. First, they surrounded the butter-stands, and rifled them of their contents; the gardeners and fishmongers were the next victims of their rapacity; and then they attacked the Shambles, and bore away joints of meat in triumph in all directions. It was not until the military exerted themselves that the riot was suppressed. Several of the ring-leaders were apprehended, and sentenced to terms of imprisonment.

June 14.—Died, at Wollaton, in his 74th year, Henry Willoughby, Baron Middleton, of Middleton, Warwickshire.

August 12.—George Caunt, a respectable hairdresser, of St. James's-street, having been charged by a dancing master with stealing a set of window curtains from his apartments whilst attending on business, a warrant was issued for his apprehension. This led unfortunately to a tragical result. Escaping from the constable who took him in custody, he fled for refuge to the house of a friend, at the upper end of Malin-hill, where he continued from Tuesday till the following Saturday evening, during the whole of which interval constables were set at each end of the hill to ensure his re-apprehension the moment he ventured out. At twelve on Saturday night, Caunt, impatient of further confinement, and anxious to escape out of the country, sallied forth, prepared, if attacked, to defend himself to the last extremity. As he emerged on to the Pavement, George Ball, one of the constables, endeavoured to seize him, but Caunt immediately discharged the contents of a large horse-pistol into his body: Ball reeled a few paces, dropped down, and expired, and though two other constables were near, in the hurry and excitement of the moment, the assassin escaped. The corpse was taken to the Town Hall, and on the next day the Coroner's jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against Caunt.

Information having been gathered of the direction the murderer had taken, he was immediately pursued, and captured at Alfreton, just as he was preparing to retire to rest. He was secured in his bedroom, and endeavoured to swallow the contents of a bottle he was taking with him to bed, and had partly done so, when one of the officers struck the phial from his mouth. On their return to Nottingham, stopping at a house on the roadside to get some refreshment, Caunt seized a fork from the table (the kitchen) and tried to plunge it into his body, in contact with his breast-bone, the attempt, however, he had succeeded in, facts, and after lingering

1800 in gaol a day or two, he died. The Coroner's jury returned a verdict of *felo de se*, and between seven and eight in the evening of the day he died the body of Caunt was buried in the Sandhills (the summit of Derby-road). On the night following, his friends removed it, and after carrying it about from place to place for several days, it was finally deposited in the General Baptists' burial-ground in Stoney-street.

A handsome subscription was raised for the family of the unfortunate constable.

August.—Notwithstanding that the last day of this month was Sunday, it was marked as the commencement of a serious riot. A great increase in the price of provisions, more especially of bread, had roused the vindictive spirit of the poorer classes to an almost ungovernable pitch. They began late in the evening, by breaking the windows of a baker in Millstone lane, and in the morning proceeded, with an increase of numbers and renewed impetuosity, to treat others of the same trade in the same unwelcome manner. Granaries were broken into at the canal wharfs, and it was really distressing to see with what famine-impelled eagerness many a mother bore away corn in her apron, to feed her offspring. The Volunteer Infantry were placed upon duty wherever the popular fury was displayed, while the civil authorities and the Dragoons from the Barracks exerted themselves in vain to induce the rioters to desist from their purpose; for immediately on their being dispersed in one place, they collected in another. Thus matters continued, with little intermission, till Wednesday, the third of September, when one of the most awful storms of lightning, thunder, and rain ever witnessed in this town, put a final end to the protracted disturbance. The electric fluid struck the house of Mr. Barratt, in Parliament-street, nearly opposite the Crown-yard, and demolished the roof, and forced out a window; and at the same time, one of the Yeomanry with his horse was overthrown by the populace into a deep ditch, near the Crown and Anchor, in Sneinton-street: it was with difficulty that he was enabled to extricate himself from his unpleasant predicament.

During the latter part of the summer, the Corporation opened a subscription to assist the poor in providing their families with bread, which received very considerable support from a number of wealthy and humane inhabitants; "but by none so much," records Blackner, "as by Messrs. Davison and Hawksley, of Arnold. They supplied an immense quantity of corn, considerably below the price they had given for it, for the use of their own workpeople. And what is very remarkable, when the corn was thus obtained to supply the poor with bread, which they could not otherwise obtain for money, there was neither wind nor water to grind it. These two worthy gentlemen remedied this misfortune, for they ground the corn in their own mill (which was turned by the machinery of their worsted mill), and sent the flour in their

own waggons to Nottingham free of all expense. It was then sold at a reduced price by the Corporate servants, at the Malt Cross, and the horrors of a famine were dispelled. These two gentlemen likewise took the batches of corn, of those who could raise them, from this town to Arnold, ground them, and brought them back, free of expense, so long as applicants could be found. For these benevolent and humane acts they received a tribute from thousands of hearts overflowing with the most grateful sensations, and Mr. Hawksley was presented with the freedom of the town; as was also Mr. Towle, of Broxtowe, who regularly brought corn to market, and sold it at a moderate price during this alarming period." 1800

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Samuel Worthington elected Mayor.

October 13.—Upwards of two hundred pairs of shoes were seized by the authorities, pursuant to Act of Parliament, at different "Cheap Shoe Warehouses" in the town, and the owners thereof convicted in the penalty of 3s. 4d. per pair, "for exposing shoes for sale made of improper leather." They were made of sheepskin instead of cowhide.

November 6.—A numerous and respectable meeting of the principal inhabitants in the Exchange, for the purpose of raising a subscription for the establishment of a public soup-house during the winter months. The contributions were very liberal, and a public soup manufactory was shortly afterwards opened in Goosegate.

November 10.—Our Corporate body unanimously voted a petition to the King, praying him to immediately convene Parliament for the purpose of taking into consideration the alarming high price of bread (good wheat selling at 130s. per quarter). This petition was presented to the King by the Duke of Portland, who was Recorder of the town and Lord Lieutenant of the county; and who, in the capacity of Secretary of State for the Home Department, wrote an official letter to the petitioners, in which he stated that, in his opinion, the scarcity of grain throughout the kingdom was real, and that there was not sufficient corn in the granaries of the farmers and factors to meet the exigencies of the winter. This had a very disastrous effect. Holders, in anticipation of an approaching famine, began to demand rates much more extravagant than they otherwise might have done, and at the close of the year wheat was 150s. per quarter.

It was during this year that Mr. John Attenburrow, an eminent surgeon of this town, undertook to propagate vaccine inoculation amongst his townspeople. Notwithstanding that the smallpox was a fearful malignity, committing the judice of all classes of society, it was at first very hesitated by inoculating an infant son of

- 1800 Mr. Charles Baxter, of the Cordwainers' Arms, Tollhouse-hill—in both cases with complete success. Mothers, as soon as they perceived that the practice was unaccompanied by danger, began to flock to Mr. Attenburrow's surgery on Beastmarket-hill, with their children to undergo the process, and the worthy gentleman, instead of making a charge, thanked them for their attendance.

Other surgeons soon followed the commendable example set them by Mr. Attenburrow. A discrimination was made between those parents who could and those who could not pay for the inoculation; and this discrimination formed the boundary to the exercise of this new species of charity. Upon an investigation of the subject, by a number of wealthy and humane inhabitants, the gratuitous inoculation was thought to be too heavy a tax upon the benevolence of the gentlemen of the profession, particularly as the burden fell chiefly upon a few; a public subscription was therefore commenced in 1805, for the purpose of remunerating a surgeon for vaccinating the children of the poorer classes, but in 1813 the institution fell to the ground for want of funds to sustain it.

1801.

- 1801 This was also a year of famine and distress. The price of a quarter of wheat, in successive months, will sufficiently indicate the fact. In January, the purchase money of wheat of the best quality, was 142s.; in February, 166s.; March, 178s.; April, 172s.; May, 130s.; June, 135s.; July, 165s.; August, 90s.; September, 88s.; October, 60s.; November, 82s.; and December, 82s.

January 21.—John Burrows, servant man to Mr. Hadden, Castle-gate, was exercising his master's horse in leaping over a bar in the Riding School, when, through his unskilfulness, he met with his death. The horse was a noble creature, a good hunter, and was being practised unknown to its owner. The man had gone over the bar once, and had been remonstrated with by those present for checking the animal when he should have given it the rein, but persisting in his conduct, at the second leap the horse stumbled, threw the rider, and falling upon him, killed him on the spot.

April 17.—On the arrival of intelligence of Lord Nelson's bombardment of Copenhagen and seizure of the Danish fleet, the town was immediately in an uproar, the bells were rung, bonfires made, &c. On the following Sunday, after Divine service, the Royal Horse Guards and the East Norfolk Militia fired eighteen rounds of artillery and three rounds of small arms, in the Park to further celebrate the victory.

April.—On Easter Tuesday, the parishioners revived their long dormant right of selecting

alternately with the Vicar. Charles Mellor, Esq., was nominated by the Church party, and Mr. Charles Lambert by the democratic section. After a severe trial of strength, attended by gross irregularities, Mr. Mellor was elected. 1801

August 5.—Michael Denman, aged 31 years, William Sykes, aged 44 years, and Thomas Bakewell, aged 24 years, were executed in the usual manner, on Gallows hill.

Denman and Sykes were stonemasons, and belonged to a desperate gang that infested the neighbourhood of Mansfield, at which town, along with a confederate named Ratcliffe, who was admitted King's evidence, they broke into the Brown Cow public-house, kept by Mr. Bowler, and stole therefrom a sum of money and a number of articles, for which offence they underwent the penalty of the law. Bakewell was a framesmith, and was condemned for breaking into the shop of Mr. John Hemsley, shoemaker, of Sutton Bonnington, in conjunction with associates named Bidder and Lakin, the latter of whom was also admitted as King's evidence. Bidder had his sentence commuted into transportation.

August.—The Notts. Militia moved from Dumfries to Kelso.

September 6.—This morning, about seven o'clock, a stack of chimneys fell through the roof of the Old Angel public-house, High-pavement, and buried in their ruins Sergeant Fairchild, who was in bed in a room below. He was immediately extricated, but life was found to be extinct.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman John Davison elected Mayor, and Mr. Whiter and Mr. Allen, Sheriffs.

October 3.—It was rumoured in the town, this morning, that preliminaries of peace with France had been signed in London, and though at first unsupported, the bare probability excited very general joy. At three in the afternoon, the hour of the arrival of the mail, thousands of people lined the London-road, anxiously awaiting a confirmation of the rumour. The mail was observed approaching them in the distance, decked with laurel, and one loud and universal cheer broke forth. In the evening, the Volunteer Infantry paraded the Market-place and discharged *feus de joie*, the bells rung, and bonfires were made.

October 11.—Early this morning (Sunday), the True Briton coach arrived with an account of the ratification of the preliminaries alluded to above; and in the afternoon the London-road was again crowded with people, awaiting the arrival of the mail. The welcome news was confirmed; the horses were immediately unharnessed, and the mail, attended by loud and continuous huzzas, was drawn by the populace to the Blackmoor's Head. After the delivery of the mail bags at the Post Office (conducted at this period by Mr. John Raynor, in High-street), the ponderous

hicle was again drawn by the people, in a most enthusiastic manner, to the Sand-hills, and then suffered to continue its journey

1801

Monday was a day of the most joyful festivity. The bells of all the churches in the neighbourhood were rung from morning till night, bonfires blazed in all directions, the Loyalists sported blue favours, guns innumerable were fired, and sheep publicly roasted in twenty or thirty parts of the town. The local journalist adds,—“In the afternoon, the Volunteer Infantry fired volleys in the Market-place. And in the evening, there was one of the most brilliant illuminations we ever witnessed. The Exchange was uncommonly splendid; the lights in the windows were fancifully arranged, and on the top, a row of blazing torches, placed at proper distances, added much to the effect. On the front was a transparent figure of Britannia, with the motto, ‘Peace with all the world.’ Below, were displayed two other emblematic paintings, on which were distinguished, ‘Union of nations,’ and ‘Commerce revived.’ around these were interspersed variegated lamps with branches of laurel: the whole displayed much judgment and taste. Numerous other appropriate devices were exhibited in different parts of the town, many of which surpassed all our imagination could have conceived. Among the numerous presents of sheep, &c., given on the occasion, we have to notice the liberality of Sir J. B. Warren, at whose expense some hundreds of persons of both sexes, in this town, were regaled with roast mutton, ale, and tea.”

October.—The Royal Regiment of Horse Guards were succeeded at the Barracks by the King’s Regiment of Dragoon Guards.

November 19.—The gentlemen, clergy, and freeholders of the county met at the Race Stand, and proceeded from thence in procession, with music, flags, &c., to the County Hall, to elect a representative in Parliament, in the place of the Hon. Evelyn Pierrepont, deceased. Colonel Eyre nominated the Hon. Charles Edward Pierrepont (Tory), brother of the late member, seconded by John Gally Knight, Esq., and there being no opposition, W. E. Elliott, Esq., the High Sheriff, declared him duly elected.

November.—The Derbyshire Militia, divided into three divisions, was stationed at Nottingham (the head-quarters), Loughborough, and Leicester.

The Hen Cross was taken down about this period.

The Independent chapel in St. Mary’s-gate was erected this year, through the seceders from the High-pavement chapel in 1761 being dispossessed of their chapel in Halifax-place. In 1861 it was turned into a shoeing forge.

The population of the town was taken this year, under the provisions of the Population Act, and returned as (including the limits of the Castle) 28,861. The number of houses was 4,977; number of families, 6,707; males, 13,729; and females, 15,111. Of these there were,—males chiefly employed in agriculture and males chiefly employed in trade, manufactures, or 11,698.

1802.

March.—The Notts. Militia marched from Scotland, in three divisions, to Doncaster, Retford, and Newark. 1802

March 11—15.—Sir Richard Graham, Knt., presided over the assizes, which were of unusual interest and importance, no less than eleven persons being capitally convicted.

The first of these was a young woman named Mary Voce. She was born at Sneinton, in 1778, and her maiden name was Hallam. Her husband was a bricklayer, and brother of the Voce who was hung in 1775, for participating in the murder of Widow Dufty; but on account of her improper attachments with other men, he had left her with two small children. She resided in Fisher-gate, and finding her youngest child an obstacle in the way of her improper connections, she poisoned it. She was tried on Friday, and the Judge, in passing sentence, directed that she be executed on the following Monday and her body submitted for dissection. She received the sentence with remarkable composure. Owing to his Lordship being detained beyond the usual time, she obtained a respite till Tuesday, on which day she was conveyed to the place of execution, amidst the greatest concourse of spectators ever witnessed in this town; above one hundred voices singing penitentiary hymns on the way to and at the gallows, and three or four persons attending voluntarily in the cart, administering comfort and consolation.

Another of the convicts was a youth, 14 years of age, named John Attenburrow. He was sentenced to be hung for picking the pocket of Mr. John Wilcockson, druggist, and stealing therefrom several bank notes, during the funeral ceremony of the late Mr. Alderman Worthington, in St. Peter's churchyard. On account of his youth he was subsequently reprieved.

There were also sentenced to be hung, William Shipley and John Jackson, for extorting money from William Savidge, at Carlton, under pretence of charging him with the crime of sodomy; Ferdinando Davis and Henry Palmer, for a robbery on the highway; Robert Smith and George Pye, for sheep stealing; William Callis and John Foreman, for stealing two heifers; and Jabez Dry, for a grand larceny. Of these, all except Davis and Palmer were reprieved ere the Judge left the town.

Davis was a blacksmith, and a native of Sawley. He had robbed John Cockayne, apprenticed to Mr. Joseph Beardsley, butcher, of Nottingham, of a silver watch and some money, on the Derby-road, in the parish of Lenton. He was a remarkably strong man, 24 years of age, and was executed on the 31st of ~~March~~ ^{April}. Palmer received a free pardon.

—The local journalist states,—“The news of the new treaty arrived here by express on Monday

1802 night about eleven o'clock; it spread through the town in an instant, like an electric shock, and multitudes immediately assembled to testify their joy by the firing of guns, huzzaing, and the ringing of bells; and on Tuesday the official tidings of this glad-some event were received by the mail. On its appearance in the Trent lanes, a great concourse of people assembled, unharnessed the horses, and drew it into the town; in doing which, we are sorry to observe, several accidents happened. One man was run over by the coach, and very much bruised; another had his shoulder dislocated, another had his thigh broke, and a fourth his arm broke, as well as others of a more trivial nature. In the evening, the Volunteer Infantry assembled, and fired three excellent volleys in honour of the occasion."

April 18.—Death of Erasmus Darwin, M.D., aged 69 years. This celebrated man was equally famed as a physician and a poet. He was the son of a private gentleman, of Elton, near Newark, and spent the last twenty-one years of his life in Derby and its neighbourhood.

Few men enjoyed greater local celebrity than Dr. Darwin. The elegancies of his mind formed a striking contrast to the inelegancies of his body. When four and twenty years of age, he was somewhat above the middle size; his form athletic and inclined to corpulence; his limbs too heavy for exact proportion. The traces of a very severe small-pox, a stoop in the shoulders, and the then professional appendage, a large full bottomed wig, gave him at that early period of life, an appearance of nearly twice his years. An inveterate and most unpleasant stammer at times almost choked his utterance; but notwithstanding his ungainliness of person, the gentry throughout the Midland counties flocked to him for advice, and his skill was deservedly held in the highest repute.

April.—In consequence of the peace, the Nottinghamshire Regiment of Militia was partially disbanded at Newark and Retford.

May 1.—This being the day appointed for proclaiming the cessation of hostilities, it was observed in Nottingham with great pomp and show. A procession was formed in the Market-place in the following order:—

A detachment of Dragoons.
The Mayor and Corporation.
A number of Constables.
Two troops of the Dragoon Guards.
The five companies of Volunteer Infantry.
Town Troop of Gentlemen Yeomanry Cavalry,
&c., &c., &c.

The proclamations were first read at the Malt Cross. At the conclusion of each, "God save the King" was played by the band, accompanied by the drums, a flourish of trumpets, and huzzas by the populace. From thence they went to the Cross, where the same ceremony was observed; and then

through the principal streets, the procession re-entered the Market-place and forming a large square in front of the Exchange, the proclamations were read a third and final time. 1802

May 7.—Early this morning the warehouse belonging to Messrs. Peet and Co., lace manufacturers, Pilcher-gate, was discovered to be on fire. The two engines from St. Mary's church were immediately brought to the scene of the calamity, and though efficiently manned and supplied with water their services were of no avail. The premises were reduced to a shell, and the loss of property was very considerable.

May 13.—The Nottingham Troop of Gentlemen Yeomanry Cavalry, commanded by Captain Wright, assembled previous to their disembodiment. A sumptuous dinner was provided at the Riding School, of which a hundred gentlemen partook, and joined in the convivialities usual on such occasions. An elegant piece of plate was presented to their Captain, as a testimony of their gratitude to him for his politeness and attention to the corps, twenty guineas to the Sergeant, and five guineas to the Trumpeter.

Lord Newark presented honorary medals to the whole corps "in commemoration of their important services." Those of the commissioned officers were of gold, and those of the non-commissioned officers and privates, silver. On the one side was the profile of the King, and on the reverse, a representation of the famed Greendale Oak, and the inscription, *Foi, Loi, Roi.*

July 6.—An election, consequent on a dissolution of Parliament. The late members, Mr. Coke and Sir J. B. Warren offered themselves for re-election; and a journeyman stockingmaker, seconded by a woolcomber, nominated Mr. Joseph Birch, of the Hasles, near Liverpool (father of Sir Thomas Birch, the late member for that great town), a gentleman, who was personally unknown to the constituency, and was nominated without his concurrence.

This was one of the most remarkable contests remembered. The popular feeling, ever capricious and changing, so long allied with the old Blue principles, seemed to have gone over to the Yellow standard of "Birch and Independence!" It is essential that we glance at the cause of this revulsion of sentiment. Undoubtedly, it was principally referable to the fact, that the lower orders of the people, who had suffered very severely during the war, were naturally led to attribute their privations to the measures of the late Parliament, and particularly to Mr. Coke, who had actively supported those measures. Hence, many of the learned gentleman's former supporters were now highly exasperated against him, and throughout his canvass, and on his way to and from the polling-booth, he was several times most unjustifiably and

His immediate friends were also treated offensively. ~~them~~ who were known or supposed to have ~~as of '94,~~ were "spencered," and in some

1802

The *Journal* narrates the circumstances as follows:—"The difficulty, as well as danger, in getting to the hustings to poll for our late worthy representative, D. P. Coke, Esq., induced that gentleman to decline any further contest on Wednesday morning last, and the returns were declared in favour of Sir J. B. Warren, Bart., and Joseph Birch, Esq.; but we understand Mr. Coke has expressed his determination to petition the House of Commons against the election, on the ground of turbulent and undue influence. On Wednesday afternoon, Joseph Birch, Esq., was chaired amidst an innumerable concourse of spectators, a body of of his friends, decorated with purple, pink, and yellow ribbons, forming a procession, with flags and other symbols of *civil liberty*, a band of music playing to patriotic airs and hymns, sung by those forming the procession. The Candidate was preceded by twenty-four damsels dressed in white, ornamented with wreaths of flowers, and carrying leaves of laurel in their hands; the foremost supporting a standard of the arms of the Representative. Our limits preclude the possibility of particularising the further proceedings of the day, but it gives us pleasure in observing that the greatest good order prevailed. Sir J. B. Warren declined the honour of being chaired." The summary of the poll was as follows:—

Sir J. B. Warren ...	983
Joseph Birch, Esq. ...	928
Daniel Parker Coke, Esq. ...	636

For Warren only, 48; for Birch only, 595; for Coke only, 10.

July 13.—Lord William Bentinck and the Hon. C. H. Pierrepont were re-elected for the county without opposition.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Benjamin Hornbuckle, hosiery, Narrow-marsh, appointed Mayor; Mr. W. Howitt and Mr. Hickling, Sheriffs.

November 17.—Death of Samuel Wise, Gent., of Beeston-hill, a musical composer of local eminence, and organist to St. Mary's during the long period of forty-six years, without intermission. Mr. John Pearson was appointed his successor.

November 29.—Destruction by fire of Mr. Denison's mill, at Pennyfoot-stile. The circumstances were thus recorded at the time: "Between one and two o'clock on Monday morning, the cotton-twist manufactory of Messrs. Oates, Stevens, and Co., was discovered to be on fire. An alarm was instantly raised, but before the engines could reach the spot, with the necessary assistance, the fire had gained such a head as to preclude the possibility of arresting its progress; the building by this time being one entire blaze. At half-past four o'clock, the working of the engines was for a moment suspended, everyone viewing the fire with silent awe. The greatest alarm prevailed for the safety of the buildings in Poplar-square, and the general attention was directed to them; but the endeavours to prevent those houses sharing a similar fate would have been ineffectual, had not the wind, which before had

blown directly upon them, fortunately chopped about, and carried 1802 the flames in a direction over the Meadows. About five o'clock, the front of this beautiful edifice fell in with a tremendous crash ; on which there arose such a volume of smoke and burning embers as exceeds the power of description, and which was carried to an immense distance. The place then exhibited nothing but a smoking ruin, with pieces of blazing timber, beams, &c., in the walls that remained standing, till each fell to the bottom in succession, where it continued burning for several days. About £2,000 worth of raw cotton was saved. The premises were insured for about £10,000, in the Sun and Royal Exchange Fire offices ; being about two-thirds of the real loss. The manner in which the fire originated has not been clearly ascertained. Conjecture has hatched many absurd stories, but after inquiry, it does not appear that the report of its being the work of an incendiary is deserving of attention." The mill was allowed to be one of the handsomest of its kind in the kingdom, and was fitted up in the most complete manner. It was seven storys high, employing about three hundred people, all of whom were thrown out of employment by the above calamity. It stood on a plot of land between Pennyfoot-stile and Poplar-place, and was built in the years 1791-2. After the fire the ground on which it stood was cleared and converted into gardens.

Statistics of Sabbath School instruction in Nottingham at this period :—

		Boys & Girls.
Belonging to the Methodist Sunday schools	...	900
Ditto	Church of England	... 400
Ditto	General Baptist	... 275
Ditto	Independent	... 150
Ditto	Particular Baptist	... 138
Total		...1863

1803.

February.—The Nottinghamshire Regiment of Fencibles 1803 were brought from Cork to Bristol, and marched from thence to Nottingham, where they were disembodied. Nearly half of them had volunteered into regiments of the line.

March 23.—Execution of John Thompson, aged 21 years. This was a peculiarly afflictive case. From circumstances which amounted to the strongest presumptive proof, there is abundant reason to believe that the name of Thompson was assumed, and that the young man was a member of a family in an exalted station of life in the city of Norwich. He is described as possessing "a fine commanding figure, great talents, and courage amounting almost to ferocity." He was condemned for stealing a portmanteau, the property of Mr. Edward Smith Godfrey,

1808 attorney, of Newark, from the coach office in that town; and his crime was aggravated by an attempt to stab the person who seized him, in the yard of the White Lion inn, Nottingham, as he was getting off the coach. When about mid-way to the place of execution, his wife (a young woman, to whom he had been married only two days before he was apprehended), unable to restrain her feelings on hearing of his approach, rushed through the crowd, and clasped him in her arms in the cart. A scene ensued sufficient to harrow up the feelings of every person alive to mental sensibility; their mutual distress excited the sympathy of every beholder, and augmented the scene of woe to such an degree, that she was at last borne away in a state of distraction.

March 16.—Mr. Coke, the late member, having presented a petition to the House of Commons, against the return of Mr. Birch, on the ground that the election was not a free and valid one, the Committee, after a protracted inquiry, came to the following resolutions:—

That Joseph Birch and Daniel Parker Coke, Esqs., were not duly elected: that the last election at Nottingham was void with respect to one of the Burgesses, and that the Petition of the Petitioners, and the opposition of Joseph Birch thereto, were not frivolous or vexatious.

That it appears to this Committee, that John Allen, being the Returning Officer at the last Election for the Town and County of the Town of Nottingham, acted contrary to his duty in opening a Poll, and proceeding to take the Votes of Electors, for a period of half an hour, and until forty-four Electors had polled, there being during the whole of that time no third Candidate.*

That it appears to this Committee, that the Petitioner, Daniel Parker Coke, Esq., after sustaining several insults, and suffering personal violence, was obliged, from the just apprehension of hazard to his life, to leave the place, and could not venture to return. And that a large number of Electors in his interest were deterred from exercising their franchise of voting.

That it appears to this Committee, that the said John Davison, the Mayor, and the said Joseph Oldknow and Thomas Oldknow, two of the Aldermen of the said Town and County of the said Town of Nottingham, took no effectual means to preserve the freedom of election, or restore it when so violated, or to punish the offenders.

It appearing that the Mayor and Aldermen have, by charter, an exclusive jurisdiction within the Town and County of the Town of Nottingham, and the Committee thinking it highly expedient to provide some better security than is likely to be provided by the Corporation of Nottingham, to preserve the peace within the said Town and County thereof, and to prevent the repetition of the same disgraceful scenes;

That it is the opinion of this Committee, that the House be moved for leave to bring in a bill to give the Magistrates of the County of Nottingham concurrent jurisdiction with the Magistrates of the Town and County of the Town of Nottingham.

That it is the opinion of this Committee, that unless such or some other measure to the like effect be taken previously to the next Election for the Town and County of the Town of Nottingham, there is no reasonable hope that a free election can be had.

March 23.—Mr. Birch, the unseated Member, made a public entry into town. He was attended by fourteen large flags, a band of music, a number of gentlemen on horseback, and a very large body of people most enthusiastic in his favour. He addressed

* Mr. Birch did not arrive in Nottingham till the fourth day.

his friends in the Exchange Hall, and announced his intention of again soliciting their suffrages. 1803

March 28.—A meeting of Mr. Coke's supporters was held in the large room of the White Lion inn, to consider upon the best means of promoting his return, whenever Parliament should issue a new writ. It was agreed that a close and general canvass of the town should at once be commenced, and that John Elliott, Esq., represent him during his absence.

April 28.—A petition against the bill, pending in Parliament, for extending the jurisdiction of the justices of the peace for the county of Nottingham into the town of Nottingham, was signed in the course of eight hours, by 4,235 inhabitants, and was despatched to London the same day by express, for presentation to the House of Commons.

April 29.—The House of Commons was occupied with an animated debate on the merits of the bill above referred to. Mr. I. H. Browne, the Chairman of the late Committee, presented a numerously signed petition from the freeholders and burgesses, supporters of Mr. Coke, praying that the bill might pass into law. The counter petition was presented by the Right Hon. C. J. Fox. Mr. Browne then moved the committal of the bill. The learned Sergeant stated that it was necessary some effectual means should be adopted for putting a stop to excesses like those which of late years disgraced the town; and in his opinion the bill was calculated for that beneficial purpose. Mr. Henderson expressed his grave doubt whether the bill could be passed, consistently with the constitution of the country, and refused to support it with his vote. But the chief feature of the debate was the eloquent oration of Mr. Fox. In terms of uncommon force and animation, the Whig leader entered into an elaborate defence of the conduct of the local magistracy, and met the invendoes thrown out against them. He argued, "It is said that the magistrates of the town are not equal to their duty. If such be the fact, why not allow, by an alteration of the charter, the election of an additional number of magistrates? Assuredly they would be as adequate to meet the evil complained of, as magistrates appointed by the Crown; but the whole of this proceeding marks the disposition which has of late years been too often manifested, that no opportunity is to be lost sight of that will add to the power of the executive government. This seems to be the panacea for every evil. It is not contended that there is any precedent for a measure like that before the House. And is it not extraordinary that, in 1803, a case should have happened calling for a bill, for which there is no precedent; but the fact is, the measure is utterly inapplicable to the case described, and not at all a proper or constitutional remedy. It is not a measure drawn up merely to meet and repress riots, but proposing to give to magistrates appointed by the Crown, a concurrent jurisdiction with those of the Corporation; and for the purpose too of giving a triumph to that party

- 1803 in the town which has never be found backward in rioting. This is the first case in which a popular tumult in any corporate town was made a pretence for invading the privileges of that corporation. It is insinuated, however, that the magistrates are culpable; if so let them be tried and punished.* But it would be a new principle in the practice or theory of law, that, because elective magistrates were guilty, those who had the right of election should be injured." In another part of his speech, the speaker met one of the more prominent of the charges, with this language:—"I am ready to confess that I have my prejudices on this occasion; and I am always disposed to take my prejudices in favour of persons calumniated. I know that calumny has been actively employed against the magistracy of Nottingham. I know that a number of idle stories† have been industriously propagated respecting them, and the proceedings of the late election: among which was, that 'a naked woman, meant to represent the goddess of Reason,' was in the course of that election, borne in procession through the streets, by a mob in the interest of Mr. Birch. This tale, which found its way into newspapers and pamphlets, could not fail to make an unfavourable impression on the public mind wherever it was believed, and it certainly did obtain some credit among certain people in London and other distant places. A learned friend of mine (Mr. Pigot), whom I much respect, was even persuaded to mention it in his opening before the Committee. To show the gross falsehood of this scandalous story, I need only mention that when Mr. Birch's counsel offered to prove that no such thing took place, the Chairman of the Committee‡ declared there was no necessity, as no one of the members had the slightest belief of it. Yet this fabrication is still repeated; and such pertinacity is quite enough to betray the falsehood and virulence of those spirits who have circulated so many mischievous reports respecting Nottingham. * * If this bill of pains and penalties upon the magistrates, and disfranchisement of the people of Nottingham, should really pass the House, I trust the time will come ere long, when this measure shall be reconsidered, and they shall be afforded an opportunity of recovering their just rights." Mr. Fox con-

* There can be no question that the magistrates were remiss in the discharge of their duties, though not so much as was represented. One fact alone is sufficient to show their want of energy and firmness; they suffered the roof of the polling-booth to be lined with people, who saluted Mr. Coke's supporters, for whole days, with the most abusive epithets.

† Mr. Fox alluded to the publication of a pamphlet entitled, "Thoughts on the late General Election, as demonstrative of the progress of Jacobinism, by John Bowles, Esq." This production stated, "With regard to the elections themselves, it must be confessed that they have exhibited various degrees of Jacobinism, as the candidates were more or less infected with that malady, and as local circumstances were more or less favourable to its diffusion. At Nottingham, the display has been complete. In that town the Jacobinical mob obliged one of the candidates, for the sake of his personal safety, to discontinue the poll; and afterwards publicly celebrated their triumph, obtained in such a manner, by displaying the Tree of Liberty, and the French national tri-coloured flag; by singing the Revolutionary song, 'Millions be free' and the 'Marseillais Hymn;' by venting the most horrible imprecations against their Sovereign; and by a procession in the true style of Gallic Jacobinism, in which a female, representing the Goddess of Reason, in a state of entire nudity, was a conspicuous figure." On these points, the writer was either grossly deceived, or was a most barefaced misrepresenter.

‡ Isaac Hawkins Browne, Esq., M.P., for Bridgworth.

cluded by submitting an amendment, to the effect that, a requisition being signed by ten or more inhabitants, the town magistrates might then be empowered to call in the assistance of the justices of the county, in the manner described in the bill. A warm debate ensued. Mr. Bond, Mr. Frankland, and Mr. Rose supported the motion; and Mr. P. Moore, Sir W. Gearey, and Mr. Grey were against it. It ended in the amendment being withdrawn, the sense of the House being clearly against its reception.

The bill was read a third time on the 3rd of May. A renewed effort was made to eject it, but without success. Mr. Fox, Mr. Grey, and Lord George Cavendish spoke on the one side; and the Attorney-General, Mr. Bond, and Mr. Shaw Lefevre on the other. On the House dividing there appeared, for the third reading, 164; against it, 29. Majority, 135.

The measure passed through the Lords in an equally triumphant manner, and received the Royal assent on the 17th of May.

This Act of the Legislature gave rise to a long series of mutual annoyances. The county justices being chiefly of Tory sentiments, and the town magistracy Whigs, who looked upon the interference of their county brethren as an intrusion, no cordiality of action could take place between them. Unhappily for the interests of the town, for many years, whichever party had a majority on the bench, gave a political tinge to the exercise of their power and patronage; but as the Mayor and Aldermen were by their charter limited to the number of seven, eight of the opposing party could at any time carry everything their own way, so that most generally the town justices were outnumbered. Blue constables became as plentiful as blackberries, such a thing as a Yellow overseer of the poor was seldom heard of, and licenses for Blue publicans were granted in profusion. The county magistrates most active in their interference were, the Rev. Dr. Wyld, of Short-hill, W. E. Elliott and J. Elliott, Esqs., silk merchants, Castle-gate, the Hon. H. Sedley, of Nuttall, Dr. Jackson, of Risley, J. Longdon, Esq., of Bramcote, J. H. Hall, Esq., of Risley, the Rev. J. Ashpinshaw, of St. Peter's-square, T. Maltby, Esq., lace manufacturer, Friar-lane, John Robinson, Esq., of Papplewick, and other gentlemen. The interference was continued, more or less, till about the year 1824, after which period the Act became virtually a dead letter. It was repealed by the Nottingham Improvement Act of 1874.

May 9.—Lord William Bentinck having been appointed Governor of Madras, and resigned his seat, Anthony Hardolph Eyre, Esq., of the Grove, near Retford, was elected his successor. The hon. gentleman declared himself "a perfectly independent man, unsupported by any powerful individual, and unconnected with any party."

May 26.—The writ for a new election having been issued, Mr. Coke made a triumphal entry into the town, attended by

1803 sixteen hundred horsemen (chiefly from the county, six abreast, and both horses and riders decorated profusely with blue ribbons), a band of musicians, seated in a car lined with blue silk, and drawn by four horses, fifty-two large and beautiful flags, and an immense number of people on foot. Mr. Coke was seated in an open landau, drawn by the populace; and was followed by the Junior Council, in a coach and four, driven by postilions dressed in silk waistcoats and caps of the predominating colour. The Market-place displayed such a scene of grandeur as was perhaps never before witnessed in this kingdom; upwards of one hundred blue flags were seen flying at the same moment, some of which were beautifully ornamented with silver, and the day being fine, with a gentle breeze, they were seen to the best advantage. Mr. Coke's landau was drawn up to the front of the Exchange, and rising up in it, the learned gentleman addressed the assemblage in his usual animated manner.

The next day (Friday), as by the wand of a magician, the town and populace appeared as universally yellow as on Thursday they had seemed blue. Not that any revulsion of sentiment had taken place; but that the political arena was occupied by a different though equally numerous body of performers. Mr. Birch, accompanied by Mr. Byng, M.P. for Middlesex, was escorted into the town by an amazing concourse of people sporting yellow favours, and in the procession were a great number of large and elegant flags of the same colour, with the addition of purple and pink. After addressing the electors in the Market-place, amidst every mark of applause, Mr. Birch, and his friend Mr. Byng, retired to the house of the Ex-Mayor, Mr. Davison, Plumtre House.

Monday, the 30th, was the first day of the election. Mr. Coke was proposed by Dr. Storer, seconded by Mr. Carpenter Smith, of Southwark. His opponent was nominated by Mr. Fellows, and seconded by Mr. Mellor. Both parties then left the Exchange, for the hustings in the Market-place, and at once proceeded with a poll, which continued, with varying success, seven days. Such was the ardour of the electors, in support of their respective candidates, that it was a task of extreme difficulty to get up to the poll, during the first three or four days. It is related that Mr. Birch's friends one evening, having been supplaned the day before, took possession of the avenue to the poll-both soon after ten o'clock, to be enabled to poll the next morning; and that many did not get through till the middle of the day. This extraordinary zeal was attended by serious consequences in several cases. Some of the Blues, exasperated at them for thus taking possession of the polling-booth, sent them refreshments, in which was diffused a quantity of jalap, which came to them in the name of Mr. Birch's committee: the bait was taken, and several of the sufferers received great injury. Mr. Coke's friends, the following day, choked up the avenue in a similar

manner. At the close of the seventh day, Mr. Birch retired from 1803
the contest.

First day	...	Mr. Coke	109	...	Mr. Birch	100
Second day	...	"	42	...	"	200
Third day	...	"	180	...	"	90
Fourth day	...	"	218	...	"	202
Fifth day	...	"	153	...	"	269
Sixth day	...	"	297	...	"	123
Seventh day	...	"	360	...	"	180
Total			1359			1164

The ceremony of chairing the successful candidate took place on the following Wednesday. At twelve o'clock, Mr. Coke was placed in a chair, very richly decorated. It was covered with blue silk, ornamented most elegantly with silver fringe and tassels, and bearing on its top a crown and cushion of crimson velvet and gold. The order of procession from the Blackmoor's Head inn (which had now become the Tory house, and the White Lion the Whig) was as follows:—Twenty blue flags; gentlemen six abreast, wearing blue favours, surmounted with sprigs of laurel; band of music; the young gentlemen of Mr. Blanchard's boarding school, eighty in number, wearing the favours and sprigs of laurel; the chair, succeeded by gentlemen six abreast and a number of blue flags. The spectators were from fifteen to twenty thousand. After the chairing was over, a large circle was formed in the Market-place, and in its centre were stationed the band and flags. Loyal airs were then played, and the scene closed with "God save the King," sung in an excellent and manly style, by Mr. Alderman Snowden of Derby, and Mr. Page, one of the vicars choral of St. Paul's cathedral.

The town rate expenses for this election, occasioned by an immense number of constables and staves, amounted to £1,406 17s.

May.—The Nottinghamshire Militia was reinforced, and stationed at Dover and the Isle of Wight. This and other unexpected movement of troops were occasioned by a resumption of hostilities with France.

June.—The Inneskillen Dragoons, after a protracted stay, succeeded at the Barracks by the 6th Dragoon Guards or Carabineers.

July.—The publicly advertised premium for militia insurance, for St. Mary's parish, was 14s. paid at the parochial office. Thus to prevent pauperism, by the removal of heads of families, the overseers were accustomed, throughout the war, to provide substitutes for those balloted parties who had previously assured against such contingency. The cost of a substitute varied from £5 to £20 or £30, and the premium of insurance graduated proportionately.

July.—The local newspaper states, "Detachments of the Royal Army of Reserve arrive here every day, in regular success-

1803 sion, from different parts of the district, Nottingham being the head-quarters of the North Midland district. The arms that were lodged here for the purpose having been delivered to them, they filed off immediately for the coasts of Kent and Sussex, escorted by parties of the 69th Regiment of Foot, which had been sent to Nottingham for the purpose. The number of these levies that have already marched from this place cannot be estimated at less than 2,000, for the most part fine young fellows. The martial appearance the town has presented for the past few days, independent of the intelligence we daily receive through the medium of the public prints, almost induces a belief that the time is not far distant when the attempts at invasion will seriously be put in execution.

The grand project understood to have been entertained by Napoleon at this period was an invasion and subjugation of England, for which purpose an immense flotilla of gunboats was being equipped at Boulogne, and a vast army, ready to cross the Channel at the first favourable opportunity. To resist the threatened descent, the national spirit was thoroughly roused. Volunteer and yeomanry corps were formed in every part of the kingdom, and the total number of this description of force returned was 379,945 men.

In our own neighbourhood we had the Nottingham Troop of Yeomanry Cavalry (re-embodied), with a Rifle Company attached, commanded by Captain Wright; the Nottingham Battalion of Volunteers; the Notts. Supplementary Militia, 560 men; the Loyal Nottingham Volunteers, commanded by Lieut.-Colonel Elliott, whose usual place of exercise was the Castle-yard; the Volunteer Sherwood Rangers, commanded by Sir T. W. White, Bart.; the Holme Pierrepont Troop of Yeomanry Cavalry; the Bunny Troop of Yeomanry Cavalry; the Loyal Wollaton, Lenton, and Beeston Volunteer Infantry, commanded by Lord Middleton; the Burton Joyce Volunteer Corps; the Colwick Volunteer Corps, commanded by Major Musters; the Oxtun Volunteers Corps, commanded by Lieut.-Colonel Sherbrooke; the Trent Vale Volunteer Infantry, commanded by Robert Padley, Esq.; the Ruddington Volunteer Infantry, &c. In addition to these, the pensioners in any way fit for duty, were enrolled into a corps designated the Royal Veteran Battalion; and to crown all, every male house-keeper rated at £8 or above per year, who was not physically disqualified or a member of a volunteer company, was called upon to be sworn in as a special constable, to act in the case of an invasion, the form of oath being as follows:—"I, A. B., do sincerely promise and swear, that, in the event of the enemies of this country putting to sea for the purpose of invading it, or of actual invasion, I will faithfully execute the office of special constable for the town of Nottingham; and that I will aid and assist the civil power therein to the best of my skill and knowledge. So help me God." The different organizations, with their

exercising, marchings, and parades, kept the whole country in an agitated state throughout the year. 1803

The Mayor and Corporation voted one hundred guineas from the town funds in promotion of the national subscription for the relief and encouragement of the Army of Reserve. They also voted three hundred guineas to Government for the general purposes of defence.

August 10.—Execution of William Hill, for committing a rape (attended with great brutality), on the person of Mrs. Sarah Justice, the wife of a respectable farmer, at Bole, near Gainsboro', on the 28th of the previous May.

Hill was the son of a labouring man of Lowdham, and was brought up very imperfectly, an associate of bad men, dissolute, and grossly licentious. After conviction, he acknowledged to the chaplain that he had made criminal attempts upon other females, one of whom was only twelve years of age, but without success.

On the morning of death, he manifested the most extreme reluctance to submit to the sentence of the law. He had to be dragged out of his cell by main force, and the exertions of half-a-dozen men were scarcely sufficient for the task of pinioning him. He was then conveyed in the customary manner to Gallows-hill; but no sooner did he feel the cord loose by which he had been tied to the cart, than he leaped over the side of the vehicle, and endeavoured to escape, to the great astonishment and agitation of the multitude. Several of the Sheriff's men immediately struck him with the blunt end of their javelins, and in spite of his horrid language and struggles, he was again forced to ascend the cart, and compelled to meet his fate.

A person who witnessed his exit wrote the following lines, as coming from the criminal:—

Though you trifle with Patience, Kate, Margery, or Joan,
Be warned by my fate, and let Justice alone;
For sooner or later her vengeance each feels,
Her hands are of iron, though leaden her heels.

August.—A considerable number of the Notts. Militia volunteered into the Royal navy. The corps, when reinforced, 1,000 in number, were stationed at Margate, and different parts of the Isle of Thanet.

September 29.—Mr. Ald. Stokeham Huthwaite appointed Mayor; Mr. Williams and Mr. Nelson, Sheriffs.

Mr. John Throsby, of Leicester, the re-publisher of Thoroton's History of Nottinghamshire, died at this period. He was also connected with a History of Leicestershire.

1804.

January.—A detachment of the 23rd Regiment of Light Dragoons, recently returned from Egypt, took the place of the Inniskillens at our Barracks. 1804

1804

January.—The large room at the Exchange, hitherto used for the town's Sunday School, was converted into an armoury dépôt for the use of the Volunteers. For some months afterwards, a picquet appointed specially had to guard the room every night.

The friends of the school, in this emergency, raised a subscription, and built the rooms in East-street. A majority of the teachers and trustees being members of the Methodist New Connexion, the rooms have since been occupied uninterruptedly for the purpose for which they were erected, by the friends of that community. The schools are consequently the oldest in the town.

April 17.—Died, at the advanced age of 101, Mrs. Peet, the relict of Mr. Peet, of Broad-street.

April 22.—This day, Sunday, the Loyal Nottingham Volunteers assembled in the Market-place, on permanent duty, and in the evening paraded in marching order, fully equipped, with knapsacks, great coats, &c. They were about 600 in number. At six the next morning, in the face of an incessant fall of snow, they again assembled, and after receiving their standards, commenced their march to Worksop, where they underwent a week's training.

May 12.—The Addington Ministry being dissolved, Mr. Pitt was gazetted First Lord of the Treasury and Chancellor of the Exchequer.

May 28.—The novel spectacle of a Regimental review in the Market-place. The Loyal Nottingham Volunteers were reviewed by Colonel Kane, passing through the manual and platoon exercises, and executing various field manœuvres.

June 7.—The friends of D. P. Coke, Esq., M.P., to the number of one hundred and sixty, met at Thurland Hall, "to commemorate his return to Parliament, and the restoration of freedom of election." The dinner comprised every delicacy of the season. The upper end of the room was decorated with a handsome and costly flag, provided by the framework-knitters, and Mr. Coke again occupied the chair in which twelve months before he had received the public acclamations of his constituents. The proceedings were of the usual character.

June 23.—The Derbyshire High Peak Volunteers marched into Nottingham, being stationed here on permanent duty for a limited time.

June.—The Notts. Militia, after remaining awhile at Ramsgate, are stationed at Canterbury.

July 18.—A man named Thomas Sewell, who had been engaged to clear away the contents of a privy belonging to St. Mary's poor-house, while descending a ladder for the purpose, was so overpowered by the effluvium that he fell down senseless. Two men who observed the circumstance became alarmed for his safety, and immediately descended with the laudable intention of rescuing him, but they too were overcome, and some time elapsed

before any other party could be induced to go to their assistance. 1804
They were however at length taken out, but not before Sewell was quite dead, and the others nearly so.

August 13.—The friends of Joseph Birch, Esq., assembled at various inns in the town, "to dine together and to celebrate their united struggle for the independence of the elective franchise." The chief assemblage was at the White Lion inn, where a superb dinner was served up to about one hundred and fifty gentlemen. A fine fat buck, the gift of the Duke of Devonshire, graced the festive board. Mr. Robert Davison presided, and after the customary loyal toasts, the health of Mr. Birch was drunk with the greatest possible enthusiasm. Ere the applause had subsided, two gentlemen entered the room, bearing a large and elegant silver cup, with cover and stand, which was then presented to Mr. Birch by Mr. Ald. Joseph Oldknow. The hon. gentleman responded, and the festivities of the evening were kept up till a late hour.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Ashwell appointed Mayor; Mr. C. L. Morley and Mr. J. H. Barber, Sheriffs.

October 29.—The Sherwood Rangers, commanded by Sir T. W. White, assembled in Nottingham for three weeks' permanent duty.

October.—The Notts. Militia removed from Canterbury to Tenterden.

October 30.—Death of the Rev. Samuel Ayscough. This eminent townsman was the son of Mr. George Ayscough, the publisher of the *Nottingham Courant*, and was born in Bridle-smith-gate, about the year 1740. At a suitable age he was sent to the Free Grammar School in Stoney-street, the routine of instruction in which was then limited to the classics. His father becoming unfortunate in business (retiring to Bramcote, where he died), young Ayscough was unable to complete his education, and had to apply himself to manual labour as a means of support. He therefore engaged in the capacity of servant to a miller, and seemed doomed to bury his talents in the *meal tub*, and to feed on the *toll* and sweat of the brow to the end of his days. But fortune, though she never blessed him with much wealth, had pursuits in store for him more congenial to the formation of his mind; and, about the year 1779, an old school-fellow rescued him from his drudgery, and obtained a situation for him in the British Museum. Here, as his abilities unfolded themselves, he received encouragement, but the principal circumstance which ensured him repute in this national establishment was his making a correct catalogue of the numerous manuscripts, which had been many years collecting, and which were of comparatively little value, for want of arrangement and classification. For this, and other services, he was appointed assistant librarian. He was also employed in the difficult arrangement of the numerous papers in the Tower. He likewise wrote an index to the first fifty-six volumes of *The Gentleman's Magazine*, *The Monthly Review*, and *The*

1804 *British Critic*. But his most difficult undertaking was his index to the works of Shakspeare, by the aid of which every sentiment in that extraordinary and sentimental author is immediately traced to its source. He also appeared as an original author, by answering "Letters of an American Farmer."

"Mr. Ayscough took orders, and obtained the curacy of St. George in the Fields; and in 1790 he was appointed to preach the annual Fairchild lecture before the Royal Society, of which he was a member. In 1803, the Lord Chancellor gave him the benefice of Cuddington, in Kent.

November.—Demolition of the Weekday Cross.

November.—The top price of wheat was 110s. per quarter.

December 12.—Spain declared war against England.

The price of coal in Nottingham this year was advanced from the average of 10s. to that of 15s. per ton. This change, produced by a combination of the colliery proprietors, created great dissatisfaction.

St. Peter's church-yard was inclosed about this period; also the first house erected at New Sneinton.

1805.

1805 *February 25*.—The Nottinghamshire Militia stationed at Rye, in Sussex. The subsequent movements of this corps were as follows:—On the 27th of November, to Winchelsea; June 28, 1806, to Steyning; May 29, 1807, to Portsmouth; August 17, encamped at Southsea; October 30, to Portsmouth; February 24, 1808, to Lewes; June 25, to Blatchington barracks; Sept. 19, to Lewes; Feb. 1, 1809, to Winchelsea, Rye, and Playdon; July 7, to Lewes; Sept. 20, to Blatchington, Nov. 16, to Playdon; Dec. 15, to Andover; Dec. 28, to Salisbury; May 30, 1810, to Plymouth; August 26, 1811, embarked for Ireland; 29th, sailed; Sept. 6, landed at Dublin; July 27, 1813, re-embarked at Dublin; August 1, landed at Bristol; August 14, to Chelmsford; August 17, to Colchester; October 7, to garrison the Tower of London; Jan. 6, 1814, to Deal; April 23, to Dover, guard of honour to Louis XVIII.; May 18, to Norman Cross barracks; July 27, to Newark; August 6, disbanded.

March 24.—Public opening of Hephzibah chapel, erected on the Paddock near Broad-lane. The Rev. Mr. Dawson, of Keyworth, and the Rev. H. Crockford, pastor of the church, and formerly of Zion chapel, Halifax-lane, were the preachers on the occasion.

Mr. Crockford's hearers being unable to sustain the heavy debt on the building it was advertised for sale in 1808, and purchased by a body of Universalists. These in their turn bending beneath the pressure, the building was for many years known as

1805

the National School, Highcross-street; it was afterwards opened as a Music Hall under the names of The Polytechnic, The Colosseum, and The Canterbury Hall; and in the year 1866, it was purchased by Dr. Popham and a few friends, and has since been used as a Mission Hall. It is now occupied by a sect known as the "Salvation Army." The following account of one of their services, held in the above hall, extracted from the *Midland Jackdaw*, April 18, 1879, may prove interesting:—"The campaign was opened by the hymn, 'We shall wear a crown,' and one of the leading sisters called upon a middle-aged person in black to give her experience of the benefit she had derived from enlisting in the 'Salvation Army.' She certainly looked like a promising exponent of women's rights. She commenced by stating that eighteen months ago she was one of the biggest infidels, and now 'I stand here as a monument of God's mercy. I have been an infidel twenty-five years.' Several further remarks of hers called forth expressions of great pleasure from the leading brothers and sisters, who frequently shouted and groaned. Afterwards, one Harry Nicholls, a converted bootmaker, spoke in the same strain. After the hymn, 'I'm a pilgrim bound for glory,' one of the ladies said: 'Our young gipsy girl will address the meeting.' This created a stir amongst the lively congregation. Picture a girl of not unprepossessing appearance, neatly dressed, with a face in which any man could trust and confide, who spoke with much earnestness and quickness of voice, and certainly told some homely truths. I think, amongst all I heard that afternoon, she made the most impression. After a hymn, the meeting broke up, and I came away with the opinion that, if they did no good, they could not do much harm, if they would only remain at the same moderate heat."

March 18.—Robert Powell *alias* Harvey (the latter of which was understood to be his correct designation), received sentence of death, at the County Hall, from Sir Alan Chambre.

Harvey was a native and burgess of the borough of Stafford, where he served an apprenticeship to a baker, but after various changes in station, he settled at Sheffield. In this place he formed an intimate acquaintance with a publican named Cooper, and from excessive gambling, they became alike bankrupts in property and character. Degraded and ruined, they resorted to thieving as a profession; and at Worksop, robbed the house of James Leeming of forty guineas in gold, the savings of many years from his wages as a day labourer. For this offence they were both capitally convicted, but Harvey having snapped a pistol and otherwise attempted to murder the man who apprehended him, was executed on April 10th, while his confederate received a reprieve.

April 5.—A public meeting was held at Thurland Hall, D. P. Coke, Esq., in the chair, at which it was unanimously resolved, "That, owing to the very great increase of inhabitants, a new church in the parish of St. Mary, Nottingham, is indispen-

1806 sably necessary." A very liberal subscription was immediately commenced. The Rev. John Burnett Stuart, A.M., who, it was agreed at the meeting, should be the incumbent, put down his name for £1,000; Edmund Wright, Esq., £1,000; Thomas Hill, Esq., £1,000; Miss Burnett, £500; Henry Maddock, Esq., £500; Mr. Towndrow, £500; Mr. William Stretton, £500; Mr. Richard Hooton, £500; Mr. Benjamin Maddock, £200; Mr. Thomas Walker, £200; Mr. Charles Lacey, £200; and a great number of smaller amounts. In consequence, however, of the determined opposition of the vicar of the parish, seconded by the patron of the living, the design, promising as it at first appeared, was in the course of a few weeks, abandoned.

May 22.—Election of a sexton for the parish of St. Mary, occasioned by the death of Mr. John Johnson. The attendant noise and excitement were almost as great as at an election of a member of Parliament. Mr. John Johnson, son of the late sexton, was supported by the Tory parishioners, and Mr. Thomas Clarkson, by the Whigs. Both sides had flags and a band of music. The polling was continued during six days, closing as annexed:—

Mr. Johnson ...	...	...	837
Mr. Clarkson ...	...	...	441

June 10.—The Nottingham Volunteers left the town this morning, at five o'clock, *en route* for Leicester. After halting at Loughborough for the night, they arrived at Leicester the next morning about ten.

On the 25th, they, in conjunction with the Derby Volunteers, were reviewed by General Broughton, about a mile and a half from Leicester. The Leicester Volunteers very politely kept the ground; and the day being fine, the number of spectators was extremely large. They returned to Nottingham on the 28th and 29th.

September 6.—A tremendous conflagration in the Meadows, occasioned by the overheating of a stack of hay. The proprietors of the Meadows were accustomed to place their ricks in one particular place, to avoid injury from floods, and the amount stacked in immediate contiguity was sometimes very large. It happened that a rick, in the centre of one of the outside rows, having been made up in an improper state, was observed to emit smoke, and after a long interval, the owner had it cut in two, and not apprehending any further danger, left it. The admission of air into the stack had a contrary effect to that anticipated, and soon after midnight, flames burst forth, and the wind being strong, they soon communicated, and the whole became one mass of flame. About three o'clock, a general alarm was spread, the fire bells were rung, and the engines conveyed to the spot with all possible speed. In the meantime the fire continued to rage with increased fury, and it was rendered difficult of access from the town, by the vast bodies of smoke issuing from it, which choked up almost every avenue.

1805

Some time elapsed before a regular supply of water could be obtained, which was obliged to be fetched in small quantities, from a pool at about one hundred yards distance; but this difficulty ceased in a great degree, on the arrival of a detachment of the 3rd Dragoons from the Barracks, who, on the alarm reaching them, repaired to the spot with a number of stable and fire buckets, and being formed in a double line to the pool, served the engines with an alacrity that merited the warmest praise. The fire, however, had extended itself so far, and the smoke at the same time become so intolerable, that every exertion to arrest its progress proved of little avail, for it could not be completely got under till about noon the next day. One rick only out of twenty remained uninjured, and it is singular that this escaped, as its distance from the others was not more than six or eight yards. Nearly four hundred tons of hay were destroyed, and the loss was computed at £1,400.

The stack in which the fire originated was the property of Mr. Richard Hooton. The sufferers sued him, and recovered heavy damages.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Edward Swann elected Mayor; Mr. Mellor and Mr. Staveley, Sheriffs.

October 24.—The victory of Trafalgar and death of Nelson. There was neither an illumination nor any outward public rejoicing in Nottingham commemorative of the event; but liberal collections were made, in most of the churches and chapels, for the relief of the families of the killed and wounded.

November.—A public institution was formed for the purpose of vaccinating the children of the poor, at their own houses, and a considerable fund was raised by voluntary contributions for its support. During the first eighteen months of its existence, 1,454 persons were vaccinated.

December 26.—Christopher Rolleston, Esq., High Sheriff, called together the freeholders of the county to elect a Coroner, in the place of Mr. William Ellison, resigned. They met at the County Hall, and Mr. Thomas Wright, of Beeston, received the appointment.

A most extensive association was formed this year, by the framework-knitters of the counties of Nottingham, Leicester, and Derby, to raise money to enable their Company to prosecute a man of the name of Payne, of Burbage, for following the business and learning others without his having served a legal apprenticeship, on the issue of which prosecution depended the future prosperity of thousands, similarly circumstanced. Payne was upheld by the Leicester hosiers, who, being the principal manufacturers of coarse and inferior goods, felt themselves peculiarly interested in pushing the trade amongst the men who, from their slender knowledge of the business, were the least likely to contend for regulated prices, or for properly fashioning their productions. After an excessive amount of litigation and expense on both sides, the matter was brought to a final hearing in Westminster

- 1805 Hall, in February, 1809, when, though the Company's Charter was admitted to be in point of law as good as other charters of a like description, it was forbidden to be put in force, any further than as relates to the internal government of the Company, such as choosing masters, wardens, &c.; and for the purpose of spending the money which the members of the Company may think well to contribute, providing such money is not applied to purposes contrary to the statute law of the land.

1806.

- 1806 *January 1.*—A duel, attended with fatal consequences, took place between Lieutenant Browne, of the 83rd Regiment, a youth of seventeen years of age, and Ensign Butler, of the 36th, both of whom were on the recruiting service in Nottingham. The parties, accompanied by their seconds, met on a secluded piece of ground in the parish of Basford, and the Lieutenant fell mortally wounded, his antagonist's bullet having passed through his body. Ensign Butler and the two seconds immediately withdrew, leaving their victim on the ground; but the reports of the pistols having attracted some people to the spot, the body was removed to the parish church.

The remains were brought to Nottingham for interment, and were deposited on the 8th in the churchyard of St. Mary. A detachment of the 3rd Dragoons and the officers and men of various recruiting parties attended. The band played the Dead March in *Saul*, the soldiers fired three volleys over the grave, and the officers wore crape and white hat-bands. The same day (Wednesday), the Rev. J. Middleton preached a sermon to the military and parishioners. The church was very densely filled, and hundreds could not gain admission.

The Coroner's jury returned a verdict of wilful murder, and Butler and the seconds, whose names were Hall and Wiltshire, immediately absconded; nor does it appear that they were ever apprehended.

January.—Change of Ministry in consequence of the demise of Mr. Pitt. Lord Granville took up the reins of office.

March 17.—Trial and conviction of William Rhodes, *alias* Davies, at the Town Hall, before Sir Robert Graham, on a charge of forgery. This offender was a native of London, where he was apprenticed to a brushmaker, but possessing a daring and impetuous spirit, and that spirit being misdirected, he ran away from his master and went to sea, where he remained till the peace of Amiens. While on board ship, he associated with the most depraved portion of the crew, and on his return he repaired to Birmingham, to complete his education, and become master of every vice. In 1803 he was sentenced at Warwick to seven years

transportation; but in 1805 he escaped from the hulks and returned to the midland metropolis, where in conjunction with some of his old associates, a scheme was formed for uttering notes forged upon Francis Rufford and Thomas Biggs, of the Stourbridge and Broomsgrove Bank. Davies was the principal in this transaction, and his success was very great, till he arrived in Nottingham, where he was detected, having tendered one for £10 to Mr. Martin Roe, draper, in the Poultry. He was hanged at Gallows-hill, on the 26th of March, aged 20 years. 1806

April 27.—Death of the Rev. Nathan Haines, D.D., aged 70 years. He was vicar of St. Mary's, a prebendary of Southwell, rector of Cotgrave, perpetual curate of Sneinton, perpetual curate of Tong, and domestic chaplain to Earl Manvers. He had resided at the vicarage, High-pavement, thirty-five years; and his remains were interred in the family vault under the altar of St. Mary's. The Rev. Dr. John Bristow succeeded him as vicar.

August 15.—Died, at an advanced age, an eccentric townsman of the name of George Wright, well known as a peddling broker. His dwelling-house, which he denominated "Paradise," was much frequented, not so much on account of any particular curiosity it contained, as from the circumstance of a handsome polished mahogany coffin, designed for his own occupancy, being its chief article of furniture. He kept this in his house-place for years, and was very particular in preserving it bright and clean. The inscription on the breast-plate was, "George Wright, died when it pleased God." His remains were interred in the interior of Hockley chapel, at which he had been a regular attendant.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman John Allen was appointed Mayor; Mr. O. T. Oldknow and Mr. A. Strathan, Sheriffs.

October 6.—The Duke of Newcastle was presented with the freedom of the Corporation, at the Guildhall, previous to which ceremony, his Grace took breakfast with the Mayor and Aldermen, at the house of the Rev. Dr. Ashpinshaw.

October 11.—John Allen, Esq., Mayor, and Mr. Geo. Coldham, Town Clerk, being deputed by the Corporation, accompanied the remains of the Right Hon. Charles James Fox, to their place of interment in Westminster Abbey.

October 19.—Death of Henry Kirke White. Henry was the second son of John and Mary White, who resided in the low and ancient building in Exchange-alley, afterwards divided into three compartments, two of them occupied as butchers' shops, by Mr. T. Templeman and Mr. G. E. Hare, and the third as a beerhouse. He was born on the 21st of March, 1785. Henry, when very young, began to manifest a strong partiality for literary pursuits. When no more than seven, he attempted an expression of his ideas on paper, his first composition being a tale, which, ashamed to show to anyone else, he communicated to the servant, to whom he had for some time been secretly giving instructions in writing. At the school of Mr. Blanchard, in

1806 Parliament-street, he was taught writing, arithmetic, and French, but throughout one whole day in each week he was doomed to trudge about the town with a butchers' basket, until, at the intercession of his mother (who appears to have been a superior woman, and afterwards conducted a boarding-school), he was released from the incongenial employment.

Mrs. White, having had a liberal education, and thinking that she discerned in her son the germs of talent and genius, made it her study to foster his pursuit of knowledge; but, to her utter astonishment, she was told by one of Blanchard's ushers, that Henry was so dull and incorrigible, it was impossible to teach him anything! His friends immediately removed him to the school of Mr. Henry Shipley, where his opening mind received a proper development. To a correct knowledge of the English tongue, which he soon learnt under this excellent master, he added the Latin and Greek languages, which he was taught there by M'Cormick, the well known biographer of Burke, and the continuator of Hume and Smollet's History of England.

At the age of fourteen, Henry's father, we are told, was anxious to bring him up to his own business, but he expressed so much dislike to the occupation, that it was at last arranged he should be sent to learn the hosiery trade, and he was accordingly employed for twelve months in the stocking-frame. To a heart like his, full of the love of literature, and all whose young visions were already those of a student, this destination was a very cheerless one. Yet he hardly dared to complain, for he knew that his family could scarcely afford to educate him in any higher employment. His mother, however, moved by his evident wretchedness, contrived to prevail upon his father to allow him to be placed in the office of Messrs. Coldham and Enfield, attorneys, who kindly agreed to take him without a premium, on condition of his serving two years before being articulated.

He now, we are informed, felt himself in something like his proper sphere, and his whole mind assumed new alacrity. Although nearly the whole day was necessarily given to the duties of his profession, for he attended in the office, as he informs us himself in one of his letters, from eight in the morning till eight at night, he still found time to apply himself to the classics, and in less than twelve months, with very little assistance, he was enabled to read Horace with tolerable ease. This progress, however, was obtained at the cost of almost incessant application. He read during his walks and at his meals; and not a moment of his leisure was given to anything except the improvement of his mind. In this manner it was surprising how much he accomplished. The papers he left behind him shewed, his biographer tells us, that he had applied himself to his legal studies with extraordinary industry. Beside the knowledge he acquired of Greek and Latin, he also made considerable progress at this time in Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese. Chemistry, electricity, astronomy, all shared

1806

largely in his attention. While pursuing these severer studies, he contrived to accomplish himself to a considerable extent in drawing and music; and he found an occasional amusement in practical mechanics, in which he showed much ingenuity and neatness of hand. Another accomplishment which he wished to acquire was the art of public speaking; and with this view he got himself elected a member of a debating society, which then existed in the town. Here he very soon distanced all his competitors.

But this was not the only mode in which he had already begun to seek distinction. So early as the first year after his emancipation from the stocking-frame, he had sent a translation from Horace to a periodical work then existing, entitled *The Monthly Preceptor*, the proprietors of which were in the habit of offering prizes for the best contributions on subjects which they proposed; and a silver medal had been awarded to him for his performance. The honour seems to have kindled his literary ambition to greater fervour than ever. He began to sigh for the advantages of a University education. After having thus frequently tried his powers in the *Preceptor*, he became a correspondent to another magazine called *The Monthly Mirror*. Some of the essays which he sent to this publication were of distinguished merit, and attracted considerable notice. Among other persons whose attention they excited was Mr. Capel Lofft, and the encouragement of this gentleman determined Henry to commit a volume of his poems, *Clifton Grove, &c.*, to the press. This was at about the close of the year 1802.

The volume made its appearance in the end of 1803, or beginning of 1804. It was published by subscription, and dedicated by permission to the Duchess of Devonshire. What pecuniary return it brought the author is not stated; but the sale probably did not do a great deal more than defray the expenses of the publication. Although favourably noticed in several periodical works of the day, it was made the subject of a very harsh article in *The Monthly Review*. "This," states the author of *The Pursuit of Knowledge under Difficulties*, "so stung the sensibility of the young poet, that he sent a remonstrance to the editors, which produced from them, in their next number, an expression of their regret that Mr. White should have been so much hurt by the severity of their criticism, but no acknowledgment of the poetical merit of the publication they had condemned. This treatment distressed Henry exceedingly. In one of his letters he says, 'This review goes before me wherever I turn my steps; it haunts me incessantly; and I am persuaded it is an instrument in the hands of Satan to drive me to distraction. I must leave Nottingham.' Fortunately, however, the poems had fallen into the hands of Mr. Southey, the late Poet Laureate, who, bringing to their perusal both a better judgment and a kinder heart than the writer in *The Monthly Review*, considered them 'to discover strong

1806 marks of genius.' On afterwards seeing the Review, this gentleman's indignation was so excited by what he deemed its cruelty and injustice, that he immediately wrote to Henry a letter of encouragement and advice, with an offer to do anything in his power to forward his views. This generous and seasonable interference contributed greatly to heal the poet's wounded feelings; and enable him in a short time to forget the sneers of his anonymous critic."

No prospect, however, had yet opened of his desire of going to the University being gratified; while the desire itself was every day growing stronger. The reading of some religious books about this time had made a great impression upon him; and his feelings had become ardently devotional. He determined to give up his life to the preaching of Christianity. His friends exerted themselves in vain to shake his resolution: he had made up his mind, if he could not gain admission at Oxford or Cambridge, to join some Dissenting communion, and to endeavour to find the means of pursuing his studies at an academy, or at one of the Scottish Universities. But we must refer to Southey's interesting narrative for a detail of the alternating hopes and disappointments by which both his mind and frame were racked, before he at last secured the object of his fond ambition. At one time he had given up all hopes of ever being able to escape from his present profession; and the view which he took of the line of conduct which it became him to pursue in these circumstances is in the highest degree creditable to his sense of propriety and duty. He said, in a letter to his mother, "All my hopes of getting to the University are now blasted; in preparing myself for it I have lost time in my profession; I have much ground to get up, and as I am determined not to be a *mediocre* attorney, I must endeavour to recover what I have lost." He immediately set about a course of more severe application than ever, allowing himself rarely more than two or three hours of sleep during the night, and often never going to bed at all. This excessive application, after some time, brought on an alarming illness, from which his friends thought that he never entirely recovered.

But at last, through the influence of the Rev. Mr. Simeon, of King's College, Cambridge, to whom he had been recommended, a sizarship was procured for him at St. John's. His mother, who was successfully conducting a boarding-school, and his elder brother, engaged each to allow him fifteen or twenty pounds yearly; and Mr. Simeon generously undertook to afford him thirty pounds more, with the aid of a friend, who is stated to have been Mr. Wilberforce, a name made venerable by a life spent in doing good. Accordingly, in October 1804, he quitted the Town Clerk's office, his employers having kindly agreed to give him up the remainder of his time, although his services were every day becoming more valuable. He did not, however, immediately proceed to Cambridge, but, by Mr. Simeon's advice, placed himself

for the first year in the house of the Rev. Mr. Grainger, of 1806
 Winteringham, in Lincolnshire. While residing with this gentleman, he applied himself to classical learning with an ardour to which everything gave way, devoting often fourteen hours a day to hard study; and though his unremitting toil soon laid him once more on a sick bed, convalescence came only to send him back to his books with as much zeal as ever. When he went to Cambridge, to use Southey's words, "the seeds of death were in him, and the place to which he had so long looked with hope, served unhappily as a hothouse to ripen them."

The exertions of this extraordinary young townsman at the University were such as might have been expected from his previous career. A scholarship having become vacant during his first term, he was advised to offer himself as a competitor for it; but having studied for this purpose with his usual immoderate application till within a fortnight of the close of the term, he found himself so ill that he was obliged to decline coming forward. To add to his misfortune, he had now the general college examination before him; and although far from well, he was obliged, if it was at all possible, to persevere in preparing himself for this occasion. He followed this counsel, and having by the aid of strong medicines been enabled to hold out during the six days of the examination, he was at its close declared the first man of his year. Immediately after this he went to London with the view of benefiting his health by a temporary relaxation from study. But he did not make much progress in recovering his strength during this short excursion; when he returned to Cambridge, his application continued unabated. It is mentioned as an instance of the manner in which he used to turn every moment to account; in his own phrase, to coin time, that he committed to memory a whole tragedy of Euripides during his walks. At the end of this term he was again pronounced first man, and also one of the best theme writers. By exhibitions, too, which were procured for him, he was now enabled to live without the assistance of his friends. At the end of the term, a tutor in mathematics for the long vacation was provided for him by his college; but this unfortunately only induced him to continue his studies at a time when relaxation was become absolutely necessary to preserve his life. Finding himself very ill, he again proceeded to London; where, however, as before, he got no better. He returned to the University worn out both in body and in mind, and after a short attack of delirium, closed his eyes in death.

A monument was erected to his memory, in the church of All Saints, Cambridge, at the expense of Mr. Boott, a native of the United States of America.

October 31.—Election of Members consequent on a dissolution of Parliament. The gentlemen placed in nomination were, D. P. Coke, Esq., John Smith, Esq., of the Bank, and Joseph Birch, Esq. Of these Mr. Birch and Mr. Smith were Whigs, but the

1806 latter had so far modified his professions as to be induced to coalesce with Mr. Coke, and throughout the contest to act in unison with him. Notwithstanding the coalition, the struggle was severe and protracted, and on each side every possible exertion was put forth. The state of the poll was as follows:—

	Mr. Coke.	Mr. Smith.	Mr. Birch.
First day	... 44	... 35	... 84
Second day	... 315	... 286	... 310
Third day	... 231	... 205	... 275
Fourth day	... 212	... 187	... 169
Fifth day	... 283	... 219	... 290
Sixth day	... 351	... 316	... 174
Seventh day	... 238	... 192	... 108
Eighth day	... 90	... 90	... 25
Ninth day	... 14	... 13	... 8
Total	... 1778	1543	1443

A venerable gentleman, named Richard Scrace, who had come from Bath purposely to give his vote in favour of Messrs. Coke and Smith, brought the same shoes with him which he wore at the contested election in 1754, and actually passed through the booth with them on; he also wore the same silver buttons on his coat and waistcoat. He had been a Burgess of Nottingham upwards of sixty-nine years, and he died soon afterwards, aged 90.

A great degree of excitement attended this contest. The printing press, for instance, had no rest night or day. The addresses, squibs, repartees, songs, &c., were of such permanent interest, that they were subsequently published in a volume of more than one hundred pages octavo. A similar publication, though nearly four times its bulk, was issued in 1803. It was entitled "The Paper War," &c.

November 7.—Lord Newark and Colonel Eyre were re-elected for the county without opposition.

1807.

1807 *January 26.*—A meeting of the ratepayers of St. Mary's was held at the vestry, to take into consideration the ruinous state of the poorhouse. It was agreed to apply to Parliament for a bill to enable the parish to erect a house of industry for the reception of the indoor poor of the parishes within a radius of twelve miles. The bill provided for the election of a number of directors, who were to be invested with power to fully govern the inmates, order corporeal punishments, send the boys to sea, &c. And the vestry meeting was induced to sanction the application, under the idea that the poor rate would thereby be greatly lessened.

Blackner states, "The business of the bill was managed so adroitly, that even some of its own committee were strangers to

its contents, nor were the public acquainted with its existence till it was on the eve of being read a second time in the House of Commons; for the vestry-meeting had been called with such apparent indifference, and managed with such delicacy, that the public mind was not awakened to the subject. Notwithstanding all this management, a copy of the bill found its way into the hands of a person who was not much in the habit of letting public grievances remain at rest.* A town's meeting was called, and a highly respectable committee chosen to prepare a petition to Parliament against the bill. The petition was presented; but the prorogation of Parliament on the 27th of April, and its subsequent dissolution, arrested the bill's progress, independently of the exertions against it. Notwithstanding this, it would have been revived the next session, as were many other bills thus stopped in their progress, had it not been again opposed. The Rev. Dr. Bristow was the principal advocate of the bill; but on the 18th of June, the most numerous vestry-meeting ever remembered by the oldest man living, was held by adjournment from the vestry to the west-end of St. Mary's church, at which a string of resolutions was passed and entered in the parish-book, declaratory of the parishioners' determination not to have a house of industry erected."

At a subsequent vestry-meeting, it was resolved to erect a workhouse on Dog-kennel-hill (then a waste strip of land on the west side of Mansfield-road, now occupied by Mr. Wild's factory and the adjacent houses), but difficulties arising, the project was abandoned. Ultimately, the old house, by being enlarged and patched in divers directions, was made better adapted for its purpose.

February.—Mr. Daniel Lambert held his first *levés* in Nottingham, at the Milton's Head inn. This was the largest and heaviest man in the world. He was born at Leicester, and was apprenticed to an engraver and die-sinker. His dimensions were but ordinary until he attained the age of twenty, from which time until death he gradually increased in bulk. In June, 1805, his weight was ascertained to be fifty stones one pound, or 701 pounds; and when last tested, it was fifty-two stones eleven pounds.

This extraordinary specimen of obesity was generally temperate, and frequently tried the experiment of abstinence, without any apparent diminution of bulk: occasionally, he would eat an entire leg of mutton. The quantity of cloth required to make his clothes was immense. When he walked, there was a lightness in his step that was surprising. He had a voice clear and agreeable, and sang with great ease and taste. He visited Nottingham several times; and died suddenly at Stamford, on the 21st June, 1809, aged 36 years. It was thought at the last that he did not weigh less than fifty-seven stones.

March 25.—The Portland Ministry invested with office. The Duke of Portland First Lord of the Treasury; Mr. Canning, Foreign Secretary; and Lord Castlereagh, Colonial Secretary.

* We suppose that Blackner here modestly alluded to himself.

1807

April 21.—Death of the Rev. George Walker, F.R.S., and president of the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society. He was one of the pastors of the Unitarian church in this town upwards of twenty-five years, during which time he published his Treatise on the Spheres, and another on the Conic Sections.

May 7.—First day of the election. The candidates were Messrs. Coke and Smith, on the one side, and Dr. Crompton on the other. The Doctor put up and persevered in the contest contrary to the advice of his friends, and refusing to go to any expense, his success was impossible. The polling was as follows:—

	Smith.	Coke.	Crompton.
First day	39	85	34
Second day	306	277	110
Third day	496	432	206
Fourth day	678	575	312
Fifth day	792	674	353
Sixth day	866	718	393
Seventh day	902	731	421
Eighth day	995	796	544
Ninth day	1216	937	635

At the end of the ninth day, the Sheriffs closed the poll without Dr. Crompton's consent. He protested strongly but unavailingly against it, and followed up his protestation by an appeal to the House of Commons. But the committee of the House declared his petition for an inquiry to be "frivolous and vexatious."

May 13.—Lord Newark and A. H. Eyre, Esq., were again elected for the county.

June 24.—The return of Sir Francis Burdett at Westminster was celebrated by the Whig-Radicals of this town with extraordinary display. Sheep were publicly roasted, and public dinners provided in various localities. There was also a procession, with a band of music and flags; and at night, a display of fireworks.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Joseph Lowe entered a third time upon the office of Mayor. Mr. Wright Coldham and Mr. John Bates were appointed Sheriffs.

November 4.—The Right Hon. Henry Richard Vassall Fox, Lord Holland, attended at the Council Chamber of the Town Hall, and received the freedom of the town.

December 6.—Death of Mr. George Burbage, aged 80 years, during thirty of which he was a proprietor and printer of the *Journal* newspaper. Originally of humble extraction, Mr. Burbage raised himself to a position of comparative wealth and respectability, entirely by his own industry and perseverance. His affable and courteous demeanour was seldom known to be ruffled, and was in such extensive repute as on one occasion to be made the subject of a curious test. A gentleman laid a bet with another, that in the dead of a given night, he would go to Burbage's residence on the Long-row, would knock him up, and ask him for a sheet of writing paper, and instead of a rebuff, get thanked for doing so.

The experiment was tried. Between one and two on a cold winter's morning, the unsuspecting tradesman was roused from his sleep by a knocking so violent as to threaten the demolition of his shop door, and hastily dressing himself, hurried down stairs to see what was amiss. The two gentlemen presented themselves, and one of them inquired very blandly for a halfpenny sheet of paper. Without betraying any irritation, Burbage struck a light from a tinder-box, and served him, receiving the purchase money with the customary inclination of his head, and his "Thank you; I'm much obliged to you, Sir."

During the war, Mr. Burbage had the honour of killing more French soldiers (on paper), than all the allied armies of the Continent, unitedly. Whenever an engagement took place, it was usual for his partner, Mr. George Stretton, to come into the office with the London paper, and exultingly ask, "How many shall we say are killed, Mr. Burbage?" and the colloquy generally ended in an agreement to add an O to the more modest report of their metropolitan contemporary. Detection was never dreamt of, for they had no rival journalist in the field, and the London papers were inaccessible to the generality of the public. In this manner it is supposed they killed twice as many Frenchmen as there were male inhabitants of France.

Various attempts had been made within the twenty years antecedent to this date, to obtain permission to erect a church, or chapel of ease, but they had all been defeated by the opposition of the incumbents and patrons of the three parishes. However, as Standard-hill was this year brought into the market, and was extra-parochial, the opportunity was thought a fitting one for a renewed effort. Accordingly, the promoters of the undertaking secured in the first instance a piece of land, and then applied to Parliament for the necessary powers. The incumbents petitioned against the bill, and though they did not succeed in throwing it out, they clogged it with certain conditions, one of which was that marriages should not be solemnized in the proposed erection.

Standard-hill generally was sold or leased about this period for building purposes; and the Park Bowling Green was also formed. This green was situated on the left of the foot-road to Lenton, and was broken up for building purposes in 1860.

1808.

February 11.—A tremendous snowstorm, accompanied by a very high wind. The snow was so drifted as to fill up the roads wherever there happened to be a cutting, and to render them totally impassable. The London mail, for instance, which ought to have arrived at three p.m. on Friday, did not reach the town till one o'clock on Sunday. The coaches to Derby set out as

1808 usual, but the snow being in many places from six to twelve feet in depth, they were unable to proceed further than Sandiacre. Bodies of men were employed in all directions, and succeeded by Monday in re-opening the roads.

April 6.—Public exposure in the pillory of Robert Calvin, who had been convicted at the recent assizes of a gross abuse of the persons of two little girls. The nature of the spectacle drew together in the Market-place an immense number of people, no exposure of the kind having taken place in the town for upwards of sixty years. At twelve o'clock, the culprit was escorted from the Town Gaol by a strong body of constables, sworn in specially for the purpose, accompanied by the Sheriffs, and ascending the steps, bowed to the multitude all round, and was then affixed with his head and arms in the pillory. There did not appear anything in his behaviour at all evidencing either a deep shame at his situation, or of contrition for his abominable offence; on the contrary, he looked as well as he could around him, perfectly undaunted. He was released at the expiration of an hour, without having sustained any personal injury, and again bowing to the people, was placed in the cart, and reconducted to the prison. It rained heavily during the whole time.

There can be no question that had it not been for the extraordinary precaution of the authorities, the man would have met, as was usual in such cases, every species of indignity from the exasperated spectators. They were restrained, however, by the presence of a large body of constables, and by the knowledge conveyed in handbills, that the 45th Regiment was close at hand, under arms, ready to interfere at a moment's notice. This was the last occasion, in Nottingham, in which the pillory was used.

April 27.—Ceremonial of laying the corner stone of the church on Standard-hill. The number of spectators was so incredibly great, that it was with the utmost difficulty the commissioners under the Act of Parliament could struggle to the spot where the stone was to be deposited. A brass plate on its face bore the following inscription:—"This first stone of a Building, dedicated to St. James, for the public worship of Almighty God, agreeably to the rites and ceremonies of the Established Church of England, was laid by Thomas Hill, Edmund Wright, Richard Eaton, and Benjamin Maddock, Esquires, the 27th day of April, in the year of our Lord 1808, and the 48th year of the reign of his Majesty King George the Third; the Right Honourable and Reverend Edward Venables Vernon being Lord Archbishop of the diocese. 'O Lord our God, all this store which we have prepared to build thee an house for thy holy name, cometh of thine hand, and is all thine own.'"—1 *Chron.* xxix. 16. The Rev. J. H. Maddock officiated as chaplain.

June 1.—The second battalion of the 45th Regiment were reviewed in the Park by Lieut.-General Pigot. The battalion was

composed of 600 men, mostly natives of the town and county, who had volunteered from the Militia. Their subsequent services in the Peninsula, form a proud page in the history of their country. 1808

June 3.—First publication of the *Nottingham Review*. Up to this period, the Whig or democratic party in Nottingham had no recognised organ, nor was there a liberal newspaper within a circle of about forty miles round the town. Two journals, however, had imperfectly supplied the party's political requirements, viz., the *Cambridge Intelligencer*, and the *London Sunday Review*. It was the high popularity of the latter vehicle of information that induced Mr. Sutton to adopt the patronymic (*Review*) as the title of the new local journal.

June.—Ichabod Wright, Esq., of Mapperley, succeeded Col. Elliott (who had resigned, on account of ill health), in the command of the Nottingham Volunteers.

July 16.—The Nottingham Volunteers return from the completion of fourteen days training at Derby.

August 8.—The warehouse of Mr. Darker, in Parliament-street, was partially destroyed by an accidental fire. The inside of the premises, and a great quantity of valuable lace, were totally destroyed.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Howitt appointed Mayor; Mr. Francis Wakefield, jun., and Mr. John Carr, Sheriffs.

November.—The officers and upwards of 500 of the non-commissioned officers and privates of the Nottingham Volunteers, transferred their services into the local Militia. The rest were disbanded.

November.—The small-pox unusually prevalent and fatal in Nottingham, especially in Acton's-yard, Navigation-row, Pear-street, Glasshouse-lane, Narrow-marsh, and St. Peter's Church-side. It was fatal in numerous cases, and drew public attention to the importance of vaccination. The mortality averaged one in every three cases.

December 11.—Mr. Joseph Hill, tailor, of Greyhound-yard, died of hydrophobia, aged 46 years. Six or seven weeks previously, a gentleman in the neighbourhood determined to shoot a dog that seemed very disordered, but in the attempt the animal broke loose and ran down the yard. Unhappily, Mr. Hill was just coming out of his house, and was seized by the dog and very severely bitten in several places, nor would the animal relinquish its hold until it was killed. The wounds gradually healed, and Hill's recovery seemed perfect, but the worst symptoms succeeded, attended by an agonising death.

December.—The most severe frost since the year 1798. A sudden change of temperature in the night of the 17th, froze various sheets of water more than four inches thick, destroyed plants, and inflicted by its unexpectedness incalculable damage. A poor man, 73 years of age, named Joseph Harrison, living in

1808 Hounds-gate, was found the next morning, literally starved to death. On the 22nd and 23rd, immense descents of snow very much delayed the mails, and obstructed the thoroughfares.

December.—In consequence of numerous daring burglaries in the town and neighbourhood, a meeting of the inhabitants was held in the Exchange Hall, to devise a remedy. It was resolved that "each Alderman should call a meeting in his respective ward to increase the number of watchmen, if necessary, and to augment their pay; and also to appoint voluntary superintendents to see that the watchmen perform their duty." At this time, not only were the police regulations defective, but the very appearance of the town was suggestive of inefficient government. The streets were strewn with filth and wretchedly paved, and many not at all; some of them were lighted in the night with oil, and others left totally dark. Dangerous upright posts were not infrequent, even in the greatest thoroughfares, and signboards were suffered to project so much from the houses as in some cases to actually obstruct the currents of the atmosphere.

December 25.—Major Wheatley, of the local Militia, gave 100 guineas to be expended in coal, and divided amongst "the poor burgesses of Nottingham."

1809.

1809 The opening of the year was attended by great severity in the weather, and on the 6th of January, a great fall of snow again blocked up the roads, so that the mails, after protracted delays, had to be brought into the town on horseback. A sudden thaw, on the 26th, accompanied by heavy rains, occasioned the highest flood, with the exception of the one in '95, that had been witnessed for forty years. Its greatest altitude was at eleven a.m. on the 28th, when it was 2ft. 7½in. lower than its memorable predecessor. No flood, it is believed, ever rose more rapidly, or receded more slowly. The mischief it occasioned was considerable, especially in the houses of the lower part of the town. A liberal subscription was raised, to afford the sufferers pecuniary relief.

June 13.—Consecration of St. James's church; the Archbishop of York conducting the ceremony.

July 22.—Thomas Lampin was tried at the County Hall, before Sir Simon Le Blanc, for forging a bill of exchange for £100, with intent to defraud Mr. Peter Selby, of Newark, and being found guilty, received sentence of death. Lampin was a native of Crediton, in Devonshire, and had resided for a short time at Gainsborough, from whence he removed to Newark, where he carried on the business of a flaxdresser for some time with respectability. Unexpected misfortunes and depression of trade placed him at length in embarrassed circumstances, and under the idea of retrieving himself he had recourse to the expedient which

cost him his life. It was his intention to have met the bill when it became due, but an accidental disclosure frustrated his design. He was executed on the 2nd of August, in the 35th year of his age, leaving a wife and two children. 1809

July 29.—An important cause was tried at Leicester, before the Hon. Sir Simon Le Blanc and a special jury, "the King v. John Ashwell, Esq.," which involved the question whether the election of aldermen for the town of Nottingham rested with the Clothing only, or should be thrown open for the suffrages of the burgesses at large. The issue had been awaited many months with great anxiety, especially by the anti-corporate or Blue party, who had instituted the proceedings. The trial lasted from nine in the morning till nearly eight in the evening. The counsel for the plaintiffs were, Mr. Darrell, Mr. Clarke, and Mr. Copley (afterwards Lord Lyndhurst); and for the defendant (whose expenses were defrayed by the Corporation), Sir Thos. Plomer (the Solicitor-General), Mr. Balguy, Mr. Sergeant Vaughan, Mr. Balguy, junr., and Mr. Reader. The former pleaded the terms of the Charter of the Corporation, which provided that the election of aldermen should be by the voice of the burgesses generally. The defendant, who was called upon to show by what authority he held the office of alderman, pleaded his election in strict conformity with the usage of more than two hundred years, agreeably "to a by-law (not now extant) made in the year 1577, by the then Mayor and burgesses, in writing, for the avoiding popular confusion and tumult in the election of aldermen, whereby such election was transferred from the burgesses at large to a select body, viz., the mayor, recorder, aldermen, coroners, common councilmen, and such of the burgesses as had served or did serve the office of chamberlain or of sheriff, and called the livery or clothing burgesses." The Corporation books, from the year 1577 down to the time of Mr. Ashwell's appointment, were produced in court, and extracts from them were given in evidence; and the usage being fully proved, the jury, by direction of the Judge, returned a verdict for the defendant.

August 25.—Henry Martin, Esq., of Colston Bassett, M.P. for Kinsale, attended at the Guildhall, and received the freedom of the town.

August 28.—Samuel Whitbread, Esq., M.P., was also presented with the freedom of the town, "in testimony of approbation of his conduct in Parliament, in reference to the abuses which the House of Commons had declared to exist in the office of Treasurer of the Navy, whilst held by Lord Melville."

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Wright Coldham appointed Mayor; Mr. Kirke Swann and Mr. W. Morley, Sheriffs.

October 4.—Mr. Perceval appointed First Lord of the Treasury.

October 4, 5, & 6.—Grand musical festival, in St. Mary's church, for the benefit of the General Hospital. The *Grand Te Deum*, by Handel, *The Creation*, and *The Messiah*, were the

1809 principal performances; and amongst the vocalists were the celebrated Mrs. Billington, Miss Hawkins, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Pearson, and Mr. Bartleman. Mr. Cramer was the leader of a full and efficient band, and Mr. Greateorex presided at the organ. The clear benefit to the institution was £509.

October 25.—Public jubilee in commemoration of the entrance of George III. into the 50th year of his reign. The Corporation attended Divine service at St. Mary's after breakfasting together at the Town Hall, and agreed "to subscribe 100 guineas, in honour of the day (in lieu of any other application of the Corporation funds to purposes connected with the celebration thereof), to be applied in aid of the fund at present existing for the erection of a fever-house for the reception of the sick poor; and also to present a memorial of congratulation to his Majesty." The Corporation and others also presented one shilling each to the privates of the 4th Dragoon Guards, the divisions of the 45th and 73rd Regiments, and the various recruiting parties, to drink the King's health. The troops were inspected in the Market-place, by General Lister, of Colwick, and fired a *feu de joie*. The Sabbath school children of the town were regaled with tea, cakes, and wine; and the prisoners in the gaols were supplied most plentifully with beef, mutton, and ale. Public dinners were provided in every quarter of the town, and a sheep was roasted whole in Barker-gate, and distributed to the poor.

October 31.—Death of the Duke of Portland, Recorder of Nottingham, and Lord Lieutenant of the county, aged 71 years.

November 7.—Death of Mr. Paul Sandby, aged 70 years. This ingenious artist was born in Nottingham, and at the age of fourteen was admitted into the drawing-room of the Tower of London, where his proficiency was so marked, that in 1748 he was appointed draughtsman under General Watson, with whom he travelled through the highlands of Scotland. During his sojourn at Edinburgh, he made a number of etchings of the designs he had sketched, which he published in a folio volume. In 1752 he went to reside at Windsor, where he drew seventy views of the scenery in that neighbourhood, which so pleased Sir Joseph Banks that he purchased them all at a liberal price. Soon after this, our townsman accompanied Sir Joseph in a tour through Wales, where he sketched a great number of interesting and romantic views. Under the patronage of Sir Watkin William Wynne, he also took numerous sketches in the northern part of the Principality. On the institution of the Royal Academy, Mr. Sandby was elected one of its first members, and was appointed in the same year chief drawing-master of the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich, which situation he held till his death. Mr. Sandby contributed much to the reputation of the English school of landscape painting; and in many of his exquisite delineations, uniting fidelity with taste, the beautiful scenery of this island is displayed as in a mirror. As a painter in water colours he has

scarcely been equalled, and he brought aquatint engraving to a perfection before unknown.

November.—The Duke of Newcastle appointed Lord Lieutenant of the county.

November 13.—Lord Holland appointed Recorder.

December 21.—The noble Lord, accompanied by the members of the Corporation, and preceded by a band of music, walked in procession from the house of the Mayor in Halifax-place, to the Town Hall, where the customary oaths were administered on his installation into office. At the close of an eloquent speech in acknowledgment of the honour conferred upon him in electing him their Recorder, his Lordship said, "the honour is enhanced by the reflection that the Corporation of Nottingham have, in all periods of our history, and in the most trying times, been eminently distinguished above others for attachment to the great principles of civil and religious liberty." The noble Lord and the Mayor and Corporation afterwards partook of a sumptuous dinner at the White Lion inn.

December 24.—Death of the Rev. Sir Richard Kaye, Bart., LL.D., Archdeacon of Nottingham, Dean of Lincoln, Rector of Marylebone and of Clayworth, Prebendary of Southwell, &c. He was succeeded in the Archdeaconry by the Rev. John Eyre, Rector of Babworth.

1810.

January 29.—Public rejoicings and sheep-roasting in the Market-place and Hounds-gate, amongst parties interested, in celebration of Lord Ellenborough having discharged a rule obtained in the Court of King's Bench, for the defendant to show cause why a new trial should not be granted in the case, "the King v. Ashwell." The defendant's case was argued on this occasion by Mr. Sergeant Lens, Mr. Balguy, and Mr. Scarlet (afterwards Lord Abinger); on the other side were Sir Vicary Gibbs (the Attorney-General), Mr. Clark, and Mr. Dampier.

February.—Major Wheatley, who had announced his intention of contesting the next vacancy in the representation of the town, in the Whig interest, sent another £100 for distribution amongst the poor burgesses. In a few days afterwards, Mr. Smith, the sitting Member, sent for distribution amongst the poor inhabitants generally, the sum of £200.

March 14.—A meeting of the parishioners of Radford unanimously agreed to demolish the church, a small and very dilapidated structure, and erect a new one. The result of this meeting was the erection of the existing building, on the west side of Outgang-lane, of which Mr. H. M. Wood was the architect. Lord Middleton subscribed £200 towards it; George de Ligne Gregory, Esq., £200; J. Smith, Esq., M.P., £50; &c.

1810 The cost was about £2,000. It was finished in 1812, and dedicated to St. Peter.

April.—The Rev. George Hutchinson, M.A., presented to the vicarage of St. Mary's, vacant by the death of the Rev. Dr. Bristow.

May.—The fellmongers' vats on the Leen-side were destroyed as a public nuisance.

May 28.—A meeting was held in the Market-place, supposed to have been attended by 5,000 persons, at which a congratulatory address was voted to Sir Francis Burdett, M.P. for Westminster, "for his patriotic conduct in reprobating the act of the House of Commons, for sending John Gale Jones to Newgate, on a supposed charge of breach of privilege of the House;" for which reprobation the hon. baronet had been committed to the Tower, by a warrant from the Speaker. A spirited petition for Reform in Parliament was also adopted.

June 25.—Ten sheep publicly roasted, and much outward display of rejoicing, amongst the local Democrats, in consequence of the liberation of Sir Francis Burdett from the Tower.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman John Bates appointed Mayor; Mr. Charles Wakefield and Mr. John Stevens Howitt, Sheriffs.

September.—The Police Office built on Smithy-row.

September.—The south-east corner of Bridlesmith-gate taken down by public subscription, and the road widened the breadth of a carriage.

October 29.—Sir Sidney Smith (the gallant defender of Acre) and his lady honoured the performance at our Theatre with their presence, and were most enthusiastically received.

October.—A new church at Sneinton first opened for Divine worship (the building demolished after the opening of the present structure in 1839).

November 27.—A town's meeting was held in the Guildhall for the purpose of establishing permanently a school for the education of poor children, on the Lancasterian system. Mr. Lancaster was present, and spoke in a very animating and pleasing manner on the benefits to be derived from the proposed institution. The school-room on Derby-road may be considered as the result. The system of teaching was afterwards altered to that known as the "British." The school was mainly supported by voluntary subscriptions, and was closed at Midsummer, 1878.

Establishment of the Nottingham Sunday School Union.

1811.

1811 *February 10.*—Death of the Hon. Henry Cavendish, at Clapham. He was a distinguished philosopher and chemist, and presented the munificent sum of £6,337 to the Nottingham General Hospital.

February.—Such was the reduced state of trade and the high price of corn, that half-famished workmen, belonging to nearly every branch of the local manufacture, were constrained to sweep the streets for a paltry support. They were so employed by the overseers of St. Mary's, the workhouse being too full to receive their families and no other employment presenting itself.

March 11.—This day is memorable as the commencement of the protracted and most alarming series of outrages, known as "the Luddite disturbances." A great amount of dissatisfaction had been smouldering in the breasts of the framework-knitters generally, for a long period, occasioned by reductions in wages, &c., and at length broke out in an open flame. Some hundreds of country hands assembled in the Market-place, and in short speeches amongst themselves complained in unmeasured terms of the treatment to which they were subject. The constables were ordered out to preserve the peace, and a troop of Dragoons paraded the Market-place from three to nine p.m. for the like purpose. When the night fairly set in, the men marched to Arnold, and broke sixty-three frames, chiefly belonging to a person named Bolton. The next morning, a troop of Dragoons were sent to the village, but the rioters had dispersed, and none of them were then apprehended.

The pernicious example thus set became at once highly popular, and was speedily and extensively imitated. In the following week, many of the villages in the north-western part of the county were visited, and nearly a hundred frames belonging to obnoxious parties were demolished.

April.—In addition to the ordinary means of enforcing authority and detecting offenders, two police officers of tried ability, from Bow-street, London, were stationed in the neighbourhood, to ensure the apprehension of some of the frame-breakers. To further strengthen the local civil and military force, the Royal Lancashire Militia, *en route* from Worcester to Hull, were detained in the town several weeks.

May 27.—By the census taken this day, agreeably to Act of Parliament, the population of the town was ascertained to be as subjoined :—

Parishes.	Inhab. Hs.	Families.	Males.	Females.	Total.
St. Mary	5238	3885	12381	14990	27371
St. Nicholas	730	748	1720	2103	3823
St. Peter	529	568	1270	1569	2839
	6497	7201	15371	18662	34033
Standard Hill ...	25	27	119	99	218
Brewhouse Yard.	16	17	44	63	107
Total.....	6538	7245	15534	18824	34358

In the parish of Radford there were found to be 695 inhabited houses, containing 1,635 males and 1,812 females : total 3,447.

1811 *August 7.*—Sir Sidney Smith received the freedom of the Corporation, at the Guildhall. The Mayor and Corporation were present in their robes of office, and Sir Sidney was in the full dress uniform of a British admiral, and wore the insignia of a Knight of the Bath.

August.—Recruiting parties were particularly active. Lads but five feet high were taken, with large bounties. The principal recruiting depôts were, the Dog and Drake, Chandler's-lane; the Volunteer, Meadow-plats; the British Tar, Newcastle-street; and the Durham Ox, Pelham-street.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman William Wilson, of Plumpton House, appointed Mayor; Mr. Isaac Woolley and Mr. Samuel Hall, Sheriffs.

October 10.—The celebration of the opening of the General Lunatic Asylum, near this town, the erection of which had just been completed, drew to the town a numerous assemblage of the aristocracy and gentry of the county. A little before eleven o'clock, the governors, stewards, and friends of the charity met their President, the Duke of Newcastle, at the County Hall, and accompanied by the Mayor and Corporation in full costume, moved in procession to St. Mary's, to attend Divine service, where the Rev. Brook Boothby, rector of Kirkby, eloquently advanced the claims of the institution. The plates at the doors were held by the Duke and Duchess of Newcastle, Lord Newark and Countess Manvers, Sir J. B. Warren and Mrs. Sotheron, and the Hon. John Simpson and Mrs. Denison. The sum collected was £420. No less than £19,819 had been expended over the building and its appurtenances. Dr. Charles Pennington was the first physician to the charity, and Mr. Henry Oldknow the surgeon.

November 4.—The practice of frame breaking was revived under circumstances greatly more alarming than in the spring of the year. The *Review* of the succeeding Friday supplied the following details:—

“The system of frame breaking in this neighbourhood, which re-commenced about eight months ago, after a lapse of thirty-six years, was renewed on the 4th inst., after a short interval, by breaking six frames in Bulwell. The violence above-named was but the prelude to scenes still more violent and awful: for on Sunday night last, a party of men, intent upon breaking frames, assailed the house of a person of the name of Hollingworth, at Bulwell, who had rendered himself obnoxious to the workmen, but who, from timely intimation, had removed part of his frames to Nottingham, and had provided seven or eight persons, armed with muskets, to protect the seven remaining in his house. Notwithstanding the formidable nature of this defence, the assailants, after eighteen or twenty shots had been exchanged by the opposing parties, forced their way into the house; and when in the act of forcing the door of the room in which the frames stood, the first man received a shot into his abdomen from a man in the house,

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which in a few minutes deprived him of life; but he had just time to exclaim, 'Proceed my brave fellows, I die with a willing heart.' His companions immediately conveyed his dead body to the borders of the Forest, near to which the house of Hollingworth stood, and then, with a fury irresistible by the power opposed to them, they again entered the house, and in about an hour and a half fully completed the object of their attack; while the *guards*, or what should have been so, sought their safety in flight. The same night, ten or twelve frames were destroyed in a house at Kimberley, though not of the obnoxious kind; and the reason assigned to the master of the house for this violence was, that he had been in the habit of learning *colts*; that is, he had learnt persons to make stockings without their serving a regular apprenticeship to the trade. We understand the rioters took nothing away except defensive and offensive weapons, nor destroyed anything, except by accident, but the frames that were the objects of their vengeance. Monday passed over with only heavy murmurs and threats; but on Tuesday, eight or nine frames, coming from Sutton-in-Ashfield, were seized in Basford, and burnt. The few of the Queen's Bays at our Barracks that could be mounted were called out; but being scattered in the different villages, they were of but little avail, in particular as the rioters knew how to evade their appearance. On Wednesday evening, the latter, to the number of one thousand, from the neighbouring villages, assembled at the seventh milestone on the Mansfield-road, about three hundred of whom were armed with muskets and pistols, and the others with weapons of other kinds, and proceeded to Sutton-in-Ashfield, where they broke about fifty-four frames; some accounts state the number as high as seventy. What few of the Mansfield Troop of Volunteers remain attached to that corps were called out; and being joined by seven dismounted Dragoons who happened to be at the latter place, escorting two French prisoners, they proceeded to Sutton, and secured from eight to twelve of the rioters, who were examined at Mansfield by the magistrates on Thursday, four of whom (three being from Arnold, and one from Hucknall Torkard) were brought in a post-chaise to our County Gaol in the evening, escorted by some of the Holme Troop of Volunteer Cavalry, the whole of whom passed through this town between two and three on that day; as did the Bunny Troop about six in the evening, on their way towards the scene of action. In short, the military seem to be in motion in all directions."

The body of the unfortunate man, who was a native of Leicester, was removed to Arnold for interment, Westley having resided there about twelve years. The funeral scene was witnessed by seven hundred to a thousand persons. Apprehending that an attempt might be made to yet further inflame the minds of the people, and extol the career of the man into martyrdom, Thomas Wright, Esq., the High Sheriff, attended by the Under Sheriff,

1811 half a dozen magistrates, a *posse* of constables, and a company of mounted Dragoons, followed the corpse into the churchyard. The excitement was tremendous. The Riot Act was at once read, and while the solemn service for the dead was being performed, the regimental drum was beaten, and the wildest confusion observable. Directly the coffin was lowered, the magistrates had the yard thoroughly cleared, and all who disobeyed their command were taken into custody.

Blackner, who possessed peculiar means of obtaining authentic information, states, in reference to these outrages,—“The desperate measures adopted by the workmen in this neighbourhood may be truly said to have had a serious effect upon the repose of the whole of this county, as well as those of Derby, Leicester, York, and Lancaster; inasmuch as the system pursued by the frame breakers, or, as they termed themselves, ‘Luddites,’ was adopted by the rioters in those several counties. The frame breakers assumed this appellation from the circumstance of an ignorant youth in Leicestershire, of the name of Ludlam, who, when ordered by his father, a framework knitter, to square his needles, took a hammer and beat them into a heap. The practice of these men was to assemble in parties of from six to sixty, according as circumstances required, under a supposed leader, that was styled *General Ludd*, who had the absolute command of them, and directed their operations; placing the guards, who were armed with swords, firelocks, &c., in their proper places, while those armed with hammers, axes, &c., were ordered to enter the house and demolish the frames; and when the work of mischief was completed, he called over the list of his men, who answered to a particular number, and he then gave a signal for their departure, by discharging a pistol, which implied that *all was right*. In consequence of these outrages being continued, a considerable military force was brought into the neighbourhood; two of the London police magistrates, with some other officers, came down with a view of assisting the civil power in discovering the ring-leaders; a considerable sum of money was also placed at the disposal of a secret committee for the purpose of obtaining private information; but in disregard of the offers of the secret committee, in contempt of the Regent’s proclamation, in defiance of the vigilance of the powers, both civil and military, these deluded men continued their course of devastation for several months, and at the end of February, 1812, it was found that no less than six hundred and twenty-four frames had been destroyed.”

November 18.—A wide frame was broken to pieces in the night-time, at a house in Outgang-lane, Old Radford; and the night following, in consequence of a stone having been projected through the window of a frame-shop in New Radford, a number of the local Militia garrisoned the premises, and also those connected with another workshop in the neighbourhood. Of

course, no attack was made. The Nottinghamshire Local Militia 1811 were called up at this alarming period on permanent duty, and the military at the Barracks were strengthened by a detachment of the Scots Greys from Litchfield, and a squadron of the 15th Hussars.

November 23.—The Luddites made a general attack upon various workshops in Basford, and completely destroyed about thirty frames, the ironwork of which was broken into pieces and scattered in all directions. The proceeding was conducted with so much secrecy and despatch, that long before any resisting force could be collected the mischief was fully accomplished. Earl Waldegrave immediately set out in pursuit of the offenders at the head of his squadron of Hussars, but did not succeed in apprehending any of them.

In the course of the same week, frames were broken in the night-time, in Trumpet-street and York-street, Nottingham, and at Chilwell, Cossall, Eastwood, Heanor, Arnold, and other places. The wide frames used for cut-ups were the most obnoxious, but in some instances the rioters extended their vengeance to all frames worked either at reduced prices or by hands not recognised by the trade. The consequences were ruinous to many of the owners, and others in the country having their fears fully aroused, brought their frames into the town for better security, under military escort.

December 5.—In consequence of a continuance of the riots, the magistrates issued a notice, calling upon all publicans to close their houses, nor suffer any company therein after ten o'clock at night; and directing further, that all householders, their servants, and dependents, should remain within doors after that hour, so long as the disposition to tumult then prevalent should continue. The authorities also intimated that to enter a house in the night-time, to demolish a frame, was in the eye of the law burglary, and punishable with death, and that all offenders would meet with the utmost severity.

It was hoped that by the publication of this, and the arrival of additional troops, the Royal Horse Guards Blue and the Berkshire Militia having been sent amongst us, the disciples of Ned Ludd would have ceased from their labours; but the expectation proved perfectly illusive, and the practice of frame breaking spread with great rapidity throughout the length and breadth of the Midland hosiery districts.

December 15.—The Prince Regent issued a proclamation, offering a reward of £50 to any party instrumental in the conviction of a frame breaker.

1812.

1812

The year opened very gloomily. A protracted and ruinous war, with the usual concomitants, prostrated commerce, provisions greatly enhanced in price (wheat selling at 108s. per quarter), a depreciated currency, and scarcity of employment, produced suffering, which the excesses of the Luddites served only to aggravate and increase. A settled despondency seemed to rest upon the town; and the nightly recurring outrages, the unintermittent fear of the frame owners, the presence of numerous bodies of troops, ready at a moment's notice to sally forth in pursuit of the enemy, and the night watching and garrisoning of houses, realized more than at any other period in the memory of the inhabitants a conception of the horrors of a state of siege.

January 10.—The *Journal* of this day remarks, "It is with extreme regret we state, that notwithstanding the adoption of every measure calculated to put a stop to the felonious system of frame breaking, conciliatory as well as coercive, the practice still continues, and, if possible, under more aggravated circumstances. No less a number than forty-three stocking and lace frames have been broken in the immediate vicinity of the town, and several even in the town itself, since our last; and what adds most seriously to this evil is that it has opened the door for the commission of every other species of crime, murder as yet only excepted. Scarcely a night passes without some fresh outrage or robbery, and hordes of banditti infest the country to such a degree that neither persons nor property can be considered safe either by day or night."

Though in the above paragraph the Luddites were all involved in one sweeping condemnation, it is right that a distinction should be drawn between the two classes into which they were divisible. These were, the Luddites proper, or they who broke frames under the mistaken idea that they should thereby benefit trade, and who confined themselves to that species of offence, and the yet more numerous class who adopted the *nom de guerre*, "Ned Ludd's men," as a cloak for the commission of almost every crime.

January 12.—It would far exceed the limits of this work to detail every case of frame breaking, nor is it at all essential to do so. The cases which follow will be instanced simply as illustrations of the systematic nature of the performances. About seven o'clock, this (Sunday) evening, a party of men in disguise, armed with pistols, entered the house of Mr. Thomas Benson, in Cartergate, and after taking measures to prevent anyone giving an alarm, by placing sentinels at the doors of all the neighbours, and at the approaches leading to the premises, they proceeded to the workshop upstairs, and demolished eight frames in about the same number of minutes. During the commission of the offence, not

the least noise was heard in the street, and the retreat was 1812 simultaneous and in perfect order.

January 13.—This morning, about six o'clock, eight men, disguised and armed with various weapons, entered Mr. Noble's house, at New Radford, and while one remained below to "take care" of the mistress of the household, the others went upstairs and destroyed four warp lace-machines, because, as the operators alleged, "they were making *two-course hole*." Noble was forced out of one of the machines by the blow of a sword, which narrowly missed his head, and cut asunder nearly the whole of the threads across the machine. The screams of his wife, which even a severe blow on the head from the butt end of a pistol could not stop, brought Noble down to her assistance, and also a neighbour, who managed to get in at the back door. They at once seized the man in the room, and tried to disarm him, but he, perceiving his danger, called out "Ned Ludd," and his associates rushed down stairs to his rescue. In the *mêlée* a pistol was snapped, but happily without effect. Finding the door fastened upon them from the outside, the desperadoes broke out the panels, and forced a way through a crowd of people, threatening any one with death who might attempt to follow them.

About the same time, twenty frames were broken at Clifton, and fourteen at Ruddington. As soon as the work of destruction was commenced at these places, mounted messengers were despatched to the Barracks, and a troop of Hussars, in conjunction with the Bunny troop of Yeomanry, galloped off and secured the passes over the Trent, under the full expectation of intercepting the Luddites on their return to the town. The latter, however, seized a small boat above Clifton, and when they arrived at the opposite bank, discharged their fire-arms, and made good their retreat.

The same evening, two soldiers were stationed in the house of a person named Barnes, at Basford, to assist him in the protection of his machinery; but while they were sitting by the fire, with their arms resting near them, seven men rushed in and seized them. Two of the bold fellows then stationed themselves as sentries at the door, armed with the soldiers' muskets, whilst their companions demolished three frames; having accomplished which they released the soldiers and escaped, bearing away the muskets in triumph.

January 18.—Nine warp lace machines, on the premises of Mr. Shipley, of Linby, were damaged to the extent of £200. The proprietor had an apprehension of a visit, and had secured the services of a number of neighbours, who guarded his house till midnight, when, imagining all danger was over, they dispersed and went to their respective habitations. No sooner, however, had they done so, than fourteen Luddites, who had lain in ambush close by, entered the premises and accomplished their purpose.

January 23.—About eleven this morning, a carrier was

1812 bringing a frame from Kimberley, and was walking leisurely before his cart, near the junction of the four roads against Aspley-terrace (not then built), when a man, with a goat skin tied over his face, the beard of which reached down to his breast, jumped into the vehicle, and with a large smith's hammer, fell to work furiously, demolishing the frame. The carter made what resistance he could; but no one being within sight, and *Ned Ludd* threatening him with his formidable weapon, the work of destruction was completed.

February 12.—This morning, at five o'clock, Mr. Harvey, of West-street, Highcross-street, was suddenly aroused from his sleep by a tremendous noise, and before he could make use of two loaded pistols which, for better security, he had placed under his pillow, his arms was held fast by a Luddite, who, with the aid of a ladder and sledge hammer, had broken in the chamber window, and jumped through the aperture. This man (who was subsequently hung at Leicester) was followed into the room by companions, and while some of them secured the family, others went to the workshops and demolished five valuable warp lace machines. Two machines were left uninjured, owing, it was supposed, to the circumstance of a neighbouring woman yociferating "murder" to the extent of her voice, and having a pistol discharged at her in consequence. As the men were descending the ladder to the street, the assembled spectators, observing a number of soldiers, as they thought, waiting at its foot, naturally inferred that the nightly piquet were engaged in a capture. It turned out, however, to be a *ruse*. Twenty-five associates, armed and dressed in military greatcoats, had adopted the artifice to ensure a safe retreat. One of them wielded a *baton*, and appeared as the commander of the party.

A piquet, consisting of seventy-five of the Berkshire Militia, divided into separate parties, and attended by constables, patrolled the streets of the town every night, from the hour of five in the evening until five the next morning.

The Mayor and Corporation appointed a secret committee, invested with a discretionary power to expend any sum not exceeding two thousand pounds, for the purpose of obtaining such information as might be useful in suppressing the disturbances, and bringing the rioters to punishment. This committee offered rewards for secret intelligence, and promised never to divulge the names of informants; and for enabling them to conduct their inquiries and operations with efficiency and secrecy, they were absolved from all liability to render any account of their expenditure.

February 14.—Mr. Ryder, the Secretary of State for the Home Department, moved in the House of Commons, for leave to bring in bills "for more exemplary punishing persons found guilty of destroying stocking frames, &c.," and "for more effectually preserving the peace of the county of Nottingham." The hon.

gentleman said, it was notorious to the House and to the country, that the dwellings of individuals were entered by armed men, who destroyed varieties of machinery and carried on a system of riot bordering on insurrection, in a manner which never before had disgraced the history of the country. The first intimation which the Government had of their proceedings was on the 14th of November, when application was made to it by the High Sheriff and Magistrates of Nottingham for military assistance. A troop of Dragoons were ordered to proceed to that place in consequence. Things immediately became quieter, but on the 27th the scene was changed again, and the Lord-Lieutenant of the county signified his apprehensions that the same disposition was likely to extend to the counties of Leicester and Derby. From the 14th of November to the 19th of December, between 800 and 900 cavalry and 1,000 infantry were ordered into Nottingham; a greater force than had ever been necessary, in any part of our history, to be employed in the quelling of a local disturbance. In the latter end of December the prospect again became more favourable, and there was reason to suppose that, partly from a better system of police, the riots were suppressed; but again they broke out, and two additional regiments were sent to the assistance of the military force. He wished the House to understand that military assistance was never refused. It was instantly granted, on the same day on which it was applied for. On the 23rd of January he received the deposition of witnesses taken in that place, and the object was to lay them before the Attorney-General. It was thought advisable to have recourse to a special commission, but that was found impossible till some of the offenders were apprehended. He had despatched Mr. Conant, an intelligent magistrate, to ascertain the best way of proceeding, and procure all the information he could. The next step resolved upon was to recommend His Royal Highness to issue a proclamation, offering a reward for the apprehension and prosecution of such as were concerned in those riots. He allowed that it was a doubtful step, and such as was never before resorted to, but, he conceived, was fully justified by the urgency of the case. His view at present was not to answer charges brought against Government, but to explain all the steps that had been tried before he proceeded to the extremity intended by his motion. The progress of these disturbances was most extraordinary, notwithstanding the assistance that had been given. They arose between the workmen and manufacturers; the machines they destroyed were not the property of persons in whose houses they were, but were hired out by the manufacturers, or by persons who made a sort of trade of them. He believed it might have been the case, that some of the owners of the houses in which they were kept were accomplices, which would account for the circumstance of so little information being obtained, and so few apprehensions effected. The whole system was carried on with the

1812 greatest secrecy and management. He was sorry to be obliged to confess that there never appeared in this country a system of depredation so completely organized : so organized was it, that the magistrates could not possibly act. The method of breaking the machinery had this peculiar characteristic, that it could be done without bustle or noise ; and there were actually instances of frames being broken by parties of thirty or fifty, without creating alarm, and while the military were within one hundred yards of the scene of mischief.

The hon. member instanced a number of cases in corroboration of his premises, and proceeded to observe that as the law then stood the breaking of frames was a simple felony, punishable with transportation—a punishment, the dread of which had not been sufficient to deter parties from committing the offence. His intention was therefore to make it capital. He was of the opinion of Sir Matthew Hale, that when offences became enormous and dangerous to the State, they should be punished with death ; and stated that from six to ten thousand pounds worth of property had been destroyed by the Luddites. The other measure he was introducing was to enable the Lord-Lieutenant of the county and five justices of the peace to call a general or special sessions, in times of disturbances, for the purpose of swearing in constables and petty constables, and choosing from persons of about 25 years of age a sufficient number to establish watch and ward.

Colonel Eyre seconded the motion, assured, as he was, that the measure, though severe in enactment, would be humane in effect.

Mr. J. Smith, though he approved of the general object of the bill, was opposed to the infliction of the punishment of death, and drew attention to what he conceived to be the origin of the disturbances, viz., the middle-men and truck system. The magistrates and inhabitants of Nottingham had done all that lay in their power to quell the spirit of riot which had so unhappily manifested itself in a town containing about 40,000 persons ; and a town, he was free to confess, in a state of the deepest distress : indeed, he never saw in any town so much misery. These efforts having failed, the interposition of the Legislature had become necessary.

An extended debate followed. Mr. C. Wynne expressed his decided opposition to any new enactment of a penal nature. Mr. Frankland thought the old law sufficient to meet the case, if properly carried out. Mr. Leigh Keck, member for Leicestershire, wished the provisions of the bills to be extended to his own county ; and after other hon. gentlemen had expressed their opinions, the motion for leave to bring in the measures was agreed to.

The bills were hurried through both Houses of Parliament, and received the Royal assent with all possible despatch. The opposition encountered was quite ineffectual. The debate on the

subject, in the Upper House, was marked by the maiden speech of Lord Byron, in violent opposition to the measure, in which he thus described the condition of the county:—"To enter into any detail of the riots would be superfluous; the House is already aware that every outrage short of actual bloodshed has been perpetrated, and that the proprietors of frames obnoxious to the rioters, and all persons supposed to be connected with them, have been liable to insult and violence. During the short time I recently passed in Nottinghamshire, not twelve hours elapsed without some fresh act of violence; and on the day I left the county, I was informed that forty frames had been broken the preceding evening, as usual, without resistance, and without detection. Such was then the state of that county, and such I have reason to believe it to be at this moment (27th February, 1812). But while these outrages must be admitted to exist to an alarming extent, it cannot be denied that they have arisen from circumstances of the most unparalleled distress. The perseverance of these miserable men in their proceedings tends to prove that nothing but absolute want could have driven a large and once honest and industrious body of the people into the commission of excesses so hazardous to themselves, their families, and the community. At the time to which I allude, the town and county were burthened with large detachments of the military, the police was in motion, the magistrates assembled; yet all these movements, civil and military, had led to nothing. Not a single instance had occurred of the apprehension of any real delinquent, actually taken in the fact, against whom there existed legal evidence sufficient for conviction."

The Act rendering frame breaking a capital offence continued in force till the 1st of March, 1814.

March 1.—The very unusual sight of the military attending Divine service with fixed bayonets. An apprehended attack upon the County Gaol, to liberate a number of framebreakers therein confined, was the cause of the extraordinary precaution.

March 17.—The County Criminal Court was excessively crowded to witness the trials of a number of individuals charged with Luddism. Mr. Justice Bailey presided. Two very young men, William Carnel and Joseph Maples, of Basford, were first arraigned at the bar, and after a protracted investigation, were pronounced guilty of breaking seven stocking frames, on the premises of Mr. John Braithwaite, of Basford: they were each sentenced to fourteen years transportation. Gervas Marshall, aged 17 years, George Green, Benjamin Hancock, aged 21 years, Robert Poley, aged 16 years, and Joseph Peck, aged 17 years, were indicted for frame breaking at Sutton-in-Ashfield, on the premises of Mr. F. Betts. Hancock and Peck were sentenced to fourteen years transportation, and Marshall, Green, and Poley to seven years each. Two or three others were tried and acquitted.

In the year 1845, the Rev. G. Atkinson, curate of Arnold,

1812

1812 received a letter from Hobart Town, Australia, respecting the death of a person named George Green (the convict referred to above), who had left property to the amount of £300 a year. He was a native of Hucknall Torkard, but at the time of his apprehension lived at Arnold. An elder brother succeeded to his estate and effects.

March 25.—Price of fine wheat, 142s. per quarter.

April 27.—At about a quarter to ten o'clock at night, an attempt was made to murder Mr. William Trentham, senr., an extensive hosier of this town. The unfortunate gentleman had been at a convivial party at Mr. Timms's, in Market-street, and was returning home to his residence, a very ancient mansion at the south-west corner of Kaye's-walk. He had knocked at the door for admittance, and while waiting inside the porch for the door being opened, two men stepped up to him from among the tombstones (Mr. Trentham's house door facing the churchyard), and one of them instantly, without uttering a word, discharged at him the contents of a large horse-pistol. The ball entered his right breast, and passing obliquely, lodged near the shoulder. The assassins, who were described by the sufferer, as "very small men," instantly fled in different directions. Mr. Trentham was assisted into his house, and Mr. Wright, surgeon, of Pelham-street, succeeded in extracting the ball and ultimately restoring his patient to his former strength, though from the nature of the wound life for several days hung as it were in a balance.

The Mayor issued a printed notice the next morning, offering a reward of 100 guineas to anyone giving information that might lead to the apprehension of either or both of the assassins; and a further reward of 500 guineas upon conviction.

The reward, large as it was, was never claimed. It is understood, however, and may be regarded as a moral certainty, that the man who attempted the assassination was one of the Luddites who were hung at Leicester, in 1817, for taking part in the attack on Messrs. Heathcoat and Boden's factory at Loughborough. The only motive that can be supposed to have impelled the men to the horrible attempt was resentment of a reduction in wages.

May.—A public subscription, to the extent of about £3,000, was entered into, "to afford relief to all in the town in poverty and distress, without regard to their parochial settlement."

May 11.—Assassination of Mr. Perceval, Prime Minister, in the lobby of the House of Commons. The assassin, Bellingham, was executed on the 18th of the same month.

The *Journal* informs us that "as soon as the truth of the report respecting the murder of Mr. Perceval had been ascertained, a few deluded men and ignorant boys, who had been taught that the deceased statesman was the prime cause of the commercial distress and suffering amongst the people, assembled in the neighbourhood of Fisher-gate, and proceeded with a band of

music through all the principal streets. They were soon joined by a numerous rabble, who, in the most indecent and reprehensible manner, testified their joy at the horrid catastrophe, by repeated shouts, the firing of guns, and every species of exultation. It was not until the military were called out, and the Riot Act was read, that the disgraceful scene was put an end to. 1812

June.—Violent and serious tumults at the Theatre obliged Mr. Robertson, the manager, to close it in the height of the season. The immediate cause of the disturbance was as follows : a number of officers were in the habit of requesting the performers to sing the National Anthem, and, seconded by the Loyalists present, of calling upon the audience to rise and take off their hats. It happened several evenings that the Democrats heeded not the cry, "hats off! hats off!" and the Loyalists, much incensed, proceeded to the extremity of attempting to knock them off by force. This was of course resisted, and the Loyalists being in a minority were severely handled. Brigade-Major Humphries had to be carried to his quarters.

July 20.—Died, in the 103rd year of her age, Sarah, the wife of Mr. Gervas Yeomans, of Richmond-street, in this town.

July 29.—Execution of Benjamin Renshaw. This man was a framework knitter, and a native of Mansfield, where he resided at the time of his apprehension. Idleness, that ground-work of every corrupt practice, appears to have led him into crime, and nearly the whole of the six years preceding his conviction were spent with his wife and family in Mansfield poor-house. He was connected with a gang of daring villains which for a length of time infested that town, committing depredations on gardens, orchards, stack-yards, hen-roosts, &c. Justice at length overtook him, and he was committed to gaol for setting fire to a haystack belonging to Mr. Charles Stanton, and also for killing a ram, the property of Mr. Isaac Dodsley, both of Mansfield. An accomplice named Thomas Revill, described as a most accomplished villain, was admitted evidence against him in both cases.

When first arraigned at the bar, the man pleaded guilty to the indictments with which he was charged, but was advised to retract the plea and submit to a trial. In complying with the request his agony of mind was so extreme that he became insensible, and had to be carried out of court; and some time elapsed before the trial could proceed. He was of course convicted.

After he was turned off, the noose of the rope slipped above his chin, and it was found necessary to replace him in the cart and adjust the noose afresh. This occurrence drew upon the head of the blundering functionary a storm of execrations. When cut down, the body was given to his friends for interment at Mansfield.

Cow-lane was widened about this period, the Duke of Newcastle having given sixteen feet of ground on the east side for that purpose. In honour of the Duke, its name was then changed

1812 to Clumber-street. The name of Boot-lane was also changed to Milton-street.

July 30.—Died in St. Mary's poor-house aged 105 years, Jane Hammond. She retained the moderate use of her faculties to the last.

July.—George Spray, aged 27 years, was convicted at the Assizes, of frame breaking on the premises of Mr. Francis Betta, of Sutton, on the 13th of the previous November, and was sentenced to fourteen years transportation.

A renewed and vigorous effort, backed by a public subscription of more than £600, was put forth this year by the framework knitters, to induce the Legislature to redress their grievances, by restraining the hosiers from certain practices supposed to be injurious to the trade. A petition was presented and a select committee of the Commons appointed, who examined a great number of witnesses, and on the 27th of May made a report to the House. This document stated that in their opinion legislative interference was necessary, and that certain grievances ought to be at once ameliorated. Amongst these the committee classed the making of such "fraudulent" productions as single-press cotton lace, two-course hole warp net, single cotton warp net, whether single or double spun, and also single worsted from one roving, and cut-up stockings. They also deprecated the non-adoption of the rack system of measuring lace, the payment of workmen in goods instead of money, the irregularity of frame rents, and the non-existence of schedules in every hosier's warehouse, to which the knitters might have access, specifying the prices paid for the making of each description of goods.

A bill embodying these suggestions was accordingly brought into the House by Mr. Coke, one of its chief promoters, seconded by his colleague, Mr. Smith, and was read a third time in the House of Commons on the 21st of June, with certain modifications introduced at the suggestion of the hosiers. Promising, however, as the success of the movement appeared to its promoters, to their extreme astonishment the House of Lords, where no opposition was anticipated, came unanimously to an adverse decision. On the motion for the second reading, July 21st, Lords Lauderdale, Liverpool, Sidmouth, and Holland advocated the *laissez faire* principle, in reference to trade and commerce; arguing that no policy was more mischievous than that which sought to separate the interests of master and workmen. The rejection of the bill followed as a matter of course.

August 21.—Good wheat commanded 155s. per quarter.

September 11.—A riot, engendered by the prevailing famine, commenced in the morning of this day. The immediate cause assigned for it was the circumstance of a baker asking twopence a stone more for flour than he had received the preceding week, notwithstanding wheat had descended in price on the intervening Saturday. The disturbance began by several women in Turncalf-

alley sticking a halfpenny loaf on the top of a fishing rod, after having streaked it with red ochre, and tied around it a shred of black crape, emblematic, it was said, of "bleeding famine decked in sackcloth." By the elevation of this and the aid of three hand-bells, two carried by women and one by a boy, a considerable crowd of people, chiefly women and children, soon congregated together. They were likewise joined, for a short time, by a number of the West Kent Militia,* in their undress, who had been irritated in consequence of their "tommies," or loaves, being short of weight. The promiscuous assemblage, wrought up to a high pitch of fury, first proceeded to the house of the offending baker and completely demolished his windows, at the same time exacting a promise that he would at once reduce the price of flour sixpence per stone. The example was contagious. Mobs instantly set to work in every part of the town, and though the Mayor and Alderman Bates used every persuasive means in their power to awaken the rioters to a sense of their duty and danger, nearly every baker experienced similar ill-treatment, except in the cases in which the terrified tradesmen at once complied with the mob's imperious demand. One of the assailing divisions bore a woman in a chair, who gave the word of command, and was dignified with the title of *Lady Ludd*. It was not until the military were called out that the peace of the town was restored, and then only for the night, for the people reassembled early the next morning, and assailed Mr. Acton's corn warehouse: the windows were demolished, but the arrival of a guard of soldiers prevented further damage. Several bakers who had broken their previous day's promise were again visited, but the authorities stationing forty or fifty parties of the Hussars and Militia in the warehouses and baker's shops, the popular effervescence was obliged to cool down.

September 12.—In consequence of more favourable harvest weather, after a long season of wet, the price of wheat in Nottingham market fell one pound three shillings per quarter; at Newark, on the following Wednesday, the price fell one pound seventeen shillings, making in fourteen days, at the latter place, a reduction of three pounds three shillings per quarter; and at Loughborough, on Thursday, there was a further declension of ten shillings.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Edward Swann re-appointed Mayor; Mr. Alfred Lowe and Mr. Edward Swann, junr., appointed Sheriffs.

October 6.—Nomination of candidates at the Exchange Hall arising from a dissolution of Parliament. F. Evans, Esq., proposed John Smith, Esq., for re-election, seconded by C. L. Morley, Esq.; Mr. Denison nominated Dr. Crompton, seconded by Mr. G. Walker; Messrs. R. Newberry and James Elliott pro-

* The West Kent Militia, about 900 strong, had relieved the Berkeleys Regiment. The Kentish men entered Nottingham on the 3rd of September, and presented a very unusual and imposing appearance. Each wore a sprig of oak in his cap, in commemoration of a ship being put to the march of William the Conqueror, by the women and men of that county going in a body to meet him, each carrying a branch of oak, which it is said struck the Normans with awe.

1812 posed Joseph Birch, Esq.; D. P. Coke, Esq., next recommended Richard Arkwright, junr., Esq., as his successor, and expressed his obligations for having been honoured with their suffrages more than thirty years. Mr. Hooton seconded the nomination, and the polling commenced at half-past two o'clock. Everything, however, was spiritless and inanimate until the afternoon of the day but one following (the 8th), when Lord Ranccliffe made his appearance on the hustings, in the Whig-Radical interest, having been nominated that morning by Mr. Edward Whittle and Mr. Richard Sibbert. The contest was now felt to have really begun, and both sides at once displayed the liveliest exertion.

This extraordinary change in the position of affairs was brought about by a strong undercurrent of circumstances. In the minds of the Democratic portion of the constituency there existed a very strong feeling adverse to Mr. Coke, and Mr. Arkwright appearing as his *protege*, and professing the same political sentiments, naturally inherited the same unpopularity. Others of moderate views thought it very dictatorial that the retiring member should presume to nominate his successor; and it was resolved that there should be, were it at all possible, a determined opposition. Mr. Smith, being viewed in the light of a constitutional Whig, and in his private character universally respected, received the tacit approbation of all parties, and the opposition was therefore to be solely directed against the wealthy cotton spinner of Cromford. The success of this gentleman, however, was considered so certain, even by the leading members of the Whig party, that they discountenanced the meditated opposition, and had advised Lord Ranccliffe, when in communication with them on the subject, not to make his appearance, urging that such was the improbability of success and the excited state of the town that a contest could only endanger the public peace. Mr. Birch had also declined to come forward, being engaged in a contest at St. Ives; and as to Dr. Crompton, he was by no means considered an eligible candidate, having neither the money nor the influence essential for success. It is thus apparent that Messrs. Birch and Crompton were nominated simply as stop-gaps, and just sufficient votes were given for them (and no more) as were requisite to keep the poll open a day or two, till a *bona fide* candidate could be found. In this emergency, a meeting of working men of Democratic sentiments took place on the evening of the 7th, at the Old Golden Fleece tavern (now the Postern Gate), and it was resolved forthwith to send a deputation to Bunny Hall, to invite the noble proprietor to come forward, and to promise him the support and strenuous exertions of the great body of the working classes. At ten the same night, three of their number set off for Bunny in a post-chaise, and succeeded in inducing his Lordship to comply with their wishes. The nominations of the other Liberal candidates were immediately withdrawn. The excitement now increased, and on the arrival of his Lordship at one the next day, his

supporters were literally intoxicated with joy ; the polling became unusually brisk, the avenue was crowded with persons anxious to record their votes, and Lord Ranccliffe was soon placed at the head of his opponent. But the Whig leaders still took no part in the contest, and continued to censure the opposition. At the close of the third day's poll, the noble Lord was far in advance of Mr. Arkwright, and the Whig leaders began to entertain doubts of their timid policy. The morning of the fourth day beheld them joining the Democrats, with the whole Corporate influence ; and at the end of the tenth day victory crowned their exertions. The final state of the poll was declared as follows :—

	No. polled.	Only votes.
John Smith, Esq....	2013	35
Lord Ranccliffe ...	1515	170
Richard Arkwright, Esq. ...	1239	576
Peter Crompton, Esq. ...	8	1
Joseph Birch, Esq. ...	5	0

Total number of electors polled, 2781.

Both the successful candidates were chaired on the following Monday. Mr. Smith's chair was decorated with white, orange, and purple silk, and Lord Ranccliffe's with orange and purple only. The assemblage of spectators was prodigious.

This election was one of the most remarkable in our local annals. It involved a great expenditure of money on each side, and is said to have cost Mr. Arkwright nearly £20,000. It is understood that he deposited this sum in certain hands, and that after the contest the managers waited upon him to return the surplus, which amounted to £40 ! Upon which he drily asked if they were quite certain everything was paid ; was there no item "that could be *made* to cover the single oddment ?"

An annual dinner in commemoration of what the Liberal party termed "The Triumph of Independence in 1812," was held on the 17th of October, for above thirty years.

October 15.—Lord William Bentinck and Lord Viscount Newark were elected for the county.

November 2.—E. Swann, Esq., Mayor, laid the foundation stone of the Lambley Hospitals, Derby-road, so designated from the circumstance of the funds for their erection being derived from the Corporation estate at Lambley.

November 22.—About seven o'clock this (Sunday) evening, six armed men, in disguise, and two of them with drawn sabres, entered the house of Mr. Glew, in Earl-street, while he and two friends were sitting by the fire smoking. The men immediately put out the light, and placing guards over the two men in the house, compelled the third to lead them into the workshop and point out a lace machine which "Nedd Ludd had learnt was at work for half goods and half money." They destroyed the machine, and retired without occasioning any disturbance beyond the precincts of the house.

- 1812 *December 19.*—Between eleven and twelve at night, three men, disguised and well armed, entirely demolished the sinkers and needles of a cotton hose frame, in the house of Mr. Cope, near King's-square. Cope and a journeyman named Ball made as much resistance as was at all prudent; but the latter having a sword's point placed at his breast, and the frame breakers plenty of assistance at the door, they were forced to submit.

1813.

- 1813 *January 10.*—About a quarter past ten p.m., a stranger knocked at Mr. Bywater's door, Gibraltar-straits, Bellar-gate, and inquired the name of the occupant. On Mr. Bywater responding, a pistol was immediately presented at his breast, accompanied by a peremptory order that he must show Nedd Ludd's men upstairs to break an obnoxious frame. Compliance being refused, another man stepped forward and snapped a pistol at Mr. Bywater, which probably was not loaded; and three others rushing in, the inmates down stairs, two men, Mrs. Bywater, and a boy, were completely overawed. While three of the daring fellows stood guard over them with pistols, their confederates were busy upstairs smashing the frame. They had however considerable trouble in quieting two young women who were preparing for bed in an adjoining room, and in making their exit narrowly escaped apprehension.

February 4.—In celebration of the Queen's birthday, the cavalry, artillery, infantry, and rifle corps stationed in the neighbourhood assembled in the Market-place, under the command of Major-General Hawker, and went through a number of evolutions. At one o'clock the artillery fired a Royal salute of twenty-one guns, while the cavalry, infantry, and riflemen, in two compact and imposing lines, extending from Sheep-lane to the Exchange, discharged a *feu de joie* after each seven shots from the cannon. The latter were six-pounders, and their report was heard distinctly for several miles. In those windows round the spacious area which had not been or could not be unfastened, a number of panes were broken by the force of the atmospheric concussion.

March 16.—William Simpson, James Barker, and Richard Selby were convicted at the County Hall, before Sir Vicary Gibbs, of breaking into the dwelling-house of Mr. Stephen Watson, farmer, of Watnall, and stealing therefrom six cheeses, four silver teaspoons, £1 9s. 7d. in money, a gun, and other articles. They were all sentenced to be hung, but Barker and Selby subsequently received a reprieve, not being thought quite so culpable as their associate, who had held firearms at Mr. Watson and threatened to shoot him.

Simpson was executed on the 31st, and his body given to his friends for interment at his native place, Bulwell. He was a

framework knitter, and was about 40 years of age, and had been led into evil practices by Luddism. 1813

July 28.—An eccentric framework knitter, named James Hutchinson, died this day, aged 93 years. He was never more than seven miles from Nottingham, never drank a cup of tea in the course of his long life, and for fourteen years never tasted ale. His principal food for more than thirty years was milk, which he liked best when thick and sour, and which he boiled till it coagulated, and then called it cheesecake. He usually had fourteen pennyworths of milk standing in a row, which he made use of in order, always taking the most ancient, that he might have it as sour as possible. He had worked in the frame 76 years, during 56 of which he was employed by one firm, that of Messrs. Rawson; and for 29 years he worked by the light of one window, during which time his frame never was moved. He died at the house of his granddaughter in Narrow-marsh, leaving more than thirty descendants.

August 26.—The price and assize of bread set by the Mayor for the ensuing week, directed that the peck loaf wheaten was to weigh 17lb 6oz., and to be sold for 5s. 3d.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman John Allen appointed Mayor; Mr. C. L. Morley and Mr. J. M. Fellows, Sheriffs.

November 1.—Mr. Sadler, senr., ascended in his balloon from the Company's wharf, Canal-street; and this bring the first time that any aeronaut had made an excursion from Nottingham, a very considerable amount of interest was excited. The balloon was liberated at a quarter to three, and passing near West Bridgford, Cotgrave, and Owthorpe, entered Leicestershire, and continuing its course, descended at Pickworth, in the county of Rutland. The voyage occupied fifty-nine minutes, and the distance traversed was thirty-three miles. The day was beautifully fine.

November 22.—The Nottinghamshire Militia marched from the Tower, where the regiment was stationed, and mounted guard at the different Royal palaces. It was an unprecedented circumstance, since the formation of the Guards or Household Troops, for a Militia or marching regiment to mount guard over the Royal family, and the selection reflected lustre upon the county, and originated the name, which it now bears, of the "Royal Sherwood Foresters."

November 29 & 30.—The successes of the British and Allied troops in Spain, Germany, and Holland over "the perfidious Bonaparte," gave rise to a general public rejoicing. The *Journal* describes the scene in a more than usually animated strain. "Large fires," observes the writer, "were seen blazing in the streets with sheep and oxen roasting before them, guns firing, bells ringing, music playing, public dinners in all parts of the town, tea parties for the females, fireworks, illuminations, &c. All ranks and parties joined in the general exultation. The streets were thronged

1813 throughout the day, the people for the most part displaying blue and orange ribbons. In the Market-place, two oxen, which had been purchased by subscription, were roasted whole, and one of them distributed amongst the populace; the other was divided amongst parties at different public-houses. There were from twenty to thirty sheep roasted whole in different parts of the town, of which numerous companies partook, with a liberal proportion of ale. It would be impossible to particularize all the scenes of joyous festivity, as in this attempt we must enumerate nearly every public-house in the town; but it would be unpardonable in us to omit to mention the public dinner at the Flying Horse inn, where most of the leading characters of the town were present, and where the *amor patriæ* shone forth with a fervour the most enlightened and animated."

In the height of the rejoicings, an effigy of Napoleon, or "Boney," as he was then commonly called, was brought into the town on the top of one of the coaches, and after being conducted in procession to the Market-place, was burnt amidst the acclamations of more than a thousand spectators.

December 25.—Early this morning a disastrous fire broke out on the premises of Mr. Alderman Coldham, Halifax-place. By the prompt arrival of the engines, a plentiful supply of water, and very persevering exertion on the part of the people attracted to the spot, in about two hours the flames were entirely subdued, but not before the valuable stock of cotton, &c., in the warehouse had sustained damage to the extent of £1,000. The calamity originated in a beam of timber laid immediately under the fire-grate of the counting-house. Fortunately, Mr. Coldham was fully insured, being himself the local agent of the Phenix office.

December 25.—A fog set in which lasted, with little intermission until February.

1814.

1814 The extraordinary continuance of severe weather, known as "the great frost," made the early part of this year truly memorable. The frost set in on the 24th December, and continued without any thaw till the 26th January, when it partially broke up; but gathering renewed intensity, extended its frigid dominion with little variation eight weeks longer. It is thus also referred to as "the thirteen weeks frost." A thermometer at Lenton Priory, in a northern aspect, fifteen feet above the surface of the ground, indicated the temperature in the shade, during January, as follows :—

1814

January	Morning, 9 o'clock.	Evening, 10 o'clock.	January	Morning, 9 o'clock.	Evening, 10 o'clock.
4 ...	...	18	16 ...	23½	9
5 ...	30	21	17 ...	16	8½
6 ...	30	22	18 ...	22	25
7 ...	20	27	19 ...	30	32
8 ...	29	27	20 ...	31	21
9 ...	27	16	21 ...	18	23
10 ...	7	22	22 ...	24	21
11 ...	22	22	23 ...	30	27
12 ...	21	28	24 ...	29	25
13 ...	21	10	25 ...	10	28
14 ...	2½	20	26 ...	34 a	thaw com-
15 ...	20	19½			menced.

As may be readily inferred, the effects of this protracted depression were very marked. Accumulations of ice rendered the streets all but impassable, and the Trent was completely sealed over with an icy crust of great thickness. Skaters, sliders, and others, of all ages and conditions, and in numbers almost incredible, were to be seen daily, amusing themselves on the glassy surface of the river; and though there was sheep-roasting, as was the case on the Thames at London, there was no lack of merriment, and several fires blazed for hours at different points between Wilford Ferry and the bridge.

To add to the evil and inconvenience of the rivers and canals being frozen up for so long a period, immense descents of snow in a great measure blocked up the highways. Communication with the neighbouring towns was therefore both difficult and dangerous, and the mails came very irregularly, and much behind their usual time. On Saturday, the 28th of January, for example, the Leeds mail left Nottingham about seven in the evening, drawn by six good horses, and about half-past nine had arrived at the eighth milestone, where it was obliged to stop, the last mile having occupied more than an hour. The outside passengers, two in number, were then desired by the driver to get inside and prepare for stopping all night, along with a lady and two gentlemen who were there; at the same time observing that a man lay on the road apparently dead. Exertions were immediately put forth, and in about ten minutes, the sufferer was reached and found to be alive, but totally unconscious. Being taken into the coach, and attended to as well as circumstances would permit, in the course of an hour the man had sufficiently recovered to be able to inform his preservers that his name was Allison, that his age was seventy, that he had walked that day from Mansfield to Nottingham, and was going back again; and that the last circumstance he remembered was creeping on his hands and knees to reach the guide-post. The coachman, with five of the horses, sought shelter at a farm house; the guard, with one horse and the bags, returned to Nottingham; and the passengers, two of whom were Mrs. Scorer, of

1814 Mount-street, and Mr. G. Collishaw, of New Sneinton, remained in the coach all night. With the exception of Mrs. Scorer, who was fetched by her husband early the next morning in a post-chaise and four, the unlucky travellers had to set out the next day for their destination on foot.

With the double object of re-opening the town streets for the purposes of traffic and giving employment to bodies of distressed workmen, the Corporation and the overseers of the poor set numbers to work to remove the accumulations of ice and frozen snow to the Market-place. A stack was formed, covering about forty yards by twenty, and several yards in height; and so compact and thoroughly congealed was the ponderous mass that a great part of it remained there till the month of June, and had then to be carted away.

Great apprehension was entertained, at the height of the severity, that should a sudden thaw set in fearful devastation might be expected from a flood. The moment, therefore, that the temperature rose above the freezing point, machinery was erected at the Trent-bridge, by means of which large balls of cast iron with ropes attached were precipitated upon the ice, for the purpose of preserving the venerable fabric from destruction, and lessening the danger from inundation, by securing a free channel through the arches for the swelling waters. The danger was most imminent on Tuesday, February 7th, when there was a general thaw, speedily followed, however, by renewed frost, and most vigorous and continuous exertion was made to break and remove the immense blocks of ice which threatened to completely choke up the bridge. Occasionally, the piers were struck by masses so great as to literally shake the entire structure, and crowds of people congregated to watch the result. The bridge was saved, but of course no effort could prevent the flooding of the Meadows, the water rapidly rising, and almost resembling in magnitude an inland sea. As night drew on, the most gloomy forebodings were indulged in by those who had property in the wharfs and lower parts of the town, a flood of unprecedented volume being quite anticipated, and the joy may be conceived on ascertaining in the morning (the 8th), that the tide had receded eighteen inches. The water again rose in the afternoon, but not so rapidly as to renew the apprehension, and on the 9th again subsided. Its greatest altitude was two feet five inches less than the inundation of 1795.

March.—Two extraordinary fat hogs were exhibited during the Fair, in a place entirely composed of ice, except the door and roof, a room having been excavated for the purpose in the immense stack of ice in the Market-place.

March 2.—A public meeting, convened by the Mayor, was held in the Guildhall, at which it was resolved "to enter into a subscription for the relief of the suffering Germans." £900 were subscribed.

March 17.—Mr. Edmund Hart, of Poplar-place, was presented with the freedom of the town, "for having vaccinated upwards of fifteen hundred poor children, gratis, in Nottingham and its vicinity." 1814

April 11.—Admiral Frank Frank, of Kirklington, elected Member of Parliament for the county, in the place of Lord William Bentinck, who had accepted the stewardship of the Chiltern Hundreds.

April 15.—The *Journal* observes, "It would be impossible to describe the enthusiastic delight which the glorious intelligence of Bonaparte's dethronement on the 4th inst., received here on Sunday last, diffused throughout all ranks of people. The mail coach arrived, decorated with a profusion of laurel, and on the top were displayed five blue flags and a white one. The populace assembled in crowds to witness its entry, and with an eager desire to learn the intelligence, which, as soon as it was made known, was hailed with a general burst of enthusiastic exultation. In testimony of the public approbation, the bells were set a ringing, which continued in merry cadence throughout the two following days. In the early part of Monday, several cart-loads of wood and many tons of coal were given for the purpose of making a bonfire in the Market-place; and in the afternoon and evening the ear was deafened by the incessant firing of guns, squibs, &c., and many rounds were fired from a piece of artillery brought into the Market-place."

On Monday, the 18th, the festivities were renewed with extraordinary spirit. Ninety gentlemen of the first respectability, dined together at Thurland Hall, and others, both Whig and Tory, at the principal inns. At night, there was a pretty general illumination.

May.—The sum of about £500 was raised by public subscription, "for the relief of those soldiers and sailors, inhabitants of Nottingham, who have been wounded, and the widows and children of those who have fallen during the war."

May 8.—Between nine and ten at night, two men, with handkerchiefs tied over their faces, silently entered the house of Mr. William Matthews, Bullock's-yard, Bellar-gate, while a part of the family were at supper; and after muttering something, in a feigned voice, about knotted frames, the first, who had a hatchet in his hand, took the candle off the table and proceeded to the bottom of the stairs, followed by his accomplice, who exhibited a large horse-pistol. At the same moment, a confederate at the door called out to the family, in a tremendous tone of voice, not to stir, at the peril of their lives; and the muzzles of six or eight guns were seen pointed at them. The two men without any hesitation ran upstairs into the workshop, and began to break four silk knotted frames, belonging to Mr. Bullock. Two blows given by the hatchet, and a sawing backwards and forwards on the sinkers, needles, and points, rendering them entirely useless, were distinctly

1814 heard by Mr. Bullock's sons, who were in bed in a garret over the adjoining shop. When their enterprise was fully accomplished the men made good their retreat.

May 17.—A very grand display of fireworks in front of the Exchange, at the expense of the Corporation, in commemoration of the overthrow of Napoleon.

June 6.—In consequence of the definitive treaty of peace with France having been fully ratified, another and universal illumination of the town took place this evening. The Exchange presented a peculiarly brilliant and fascinating appearance. The front windows were decorated with no less than fifteen transparencies. A number of stars, in variegated lamps, ornamented the whole; and the parapet at the crown of the Exchange, and the figure of Justice which surmounts the whole, were decorated with more than 200 flambeaux. The Police Office was finely ornamented with a transparency representing Justice, supported on each side by a star of variegated lamps. To particularize all that was noteworthy would occupy several pages, the description must therefore be closed by noticing that the Castle was brilliantly lit up at every window, and with flambeaux on the parapet wall; that the consumption of candles and oil in every part of the town was enormous, no illumination in Nottingham, either before or since, having been anything like so general or magnificent; that almost every window was decked with flowers, laurel, garlands, and ribbons; and that nearly the whole population spent the greater part of the night in the streets.

July 26.—Several daring acts of Luddism. Frames were broken at Mr. Hooton's, Old Sneinton, Mr. Cooper's, New Sneinton, and at a house in Commerce-row.

August 23.—John Allen, Esq., the Mayor, laid the first stone of the new suite of rooms and shambles at the Exchange. This was preparatory to the alteration and stuccoing of the front of the edifice.

September 19 & 20.—A cricket match for 100gs. was played in Burleigh Park, the seat of the Earl of Winchelsea and Nottingham, between eleven players of this town and eleven gentlemen of the county of Rutland. The Nottingham players were, H. Hopkin, J. Dennis, R. Warsop, T. Warsop, Parr, C. Goodall, Jeffries, Smith, Brittain, Leeson, and Brown. Summary of the score: Rutland, 1st innings, 35; second, 30. Nottingham, 1st and only innings, 228. Majority, 163.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman John Ashwell appointed Mayor; Mr. William Soars and Mr. John Allen, junr., Sheriffs.

October 14.—A most daring outrage, involving a calamitous loss of life, was committed at New Basford. The local papers thus detailed the particulars:—"On Friday evening, a foul and horrid attempt was made to murder Mr. Thomas Garton, and at the same time Mr. Wm. Kilby was actually murdered. From the depositions taken before Mr. Wright, the Coroner, at the Plough

inn, Basford, on Sunday, it appeared that, about five or six weeks ago, an attack was made upon Mr. Garton's house at New Basford, by a number of Luddites, who destroyed several frames. That upon Garton's information, a man named James Towle* had been committed, and then lay in the County Gaol, for trial for this offence at the next assizes, and that in consequence of such proceeding threats of violence against Garton had been expressed, so as to excite in him great apprehension for his personal safety. That intimation of the probability of an early execution of these threats was providentially received by Mr. Garton, which induced him to be more particularly upon his guard, and to have in his house a force sufficient for its defence. That on Friday evening, about half-past nine, a forcible attack was made upon the house by a body of men, of whose number we cannot learn that any accurate judgment can be formed, three of whom first broke in, and were immediately followed by others. That one of them cried out 'd—n him, where is he?' that from some of them three shots were fired in the house before the fire was returned; that then the persons stationed to protect the house fired in defence of their lives and of Garton's property, and that Samuel Bamford, one of the foremost of the Luddites, was shot dead upon the spot; and that several other shots were fired, and at length the assailants retreated and made their escape, under the total darkness into which the house was thrown by the explosions of the firearms.

"It also appeared that William Kilby, a respectable frame-work knitter, who lived about thirty yards from Mr. Garton's, happened to be sitting in his own house at the time, with Mrs. Garton, who had made a call on business, and the latter expressing her alarm at hearing repeated discharges of firearms, Kilby unsuspectingly went out to see what was the matter, when, being mistaken for a constable on the watch, he was instantly shot, and fell dead at his own door. In the former case the jury returned a verdict of justifiable homicide; and in the latter, wilful murder against some person or persons unknown."

A Royal proclamation was immediately published, offering a reward of two hundred guineas for a discovery of the perpetrators of the outrage, and also a reward of half that amount to any of the men, except the one who actually fired the shot, who might reveal the names of his accomplices, but without success. The position of the widow of the murdered man was also regarded, and the nobility and gentry of the county raised a subscription for her relief, exceeding £200. This sum was placed at the disposal of the Corporation, who agreed in return to allow Mrs. Kilby an annuity of £25 for life. She died in August, 1822.

November.—Mr. J. Rainbow, town crier, appointed governor of the House of Correction; and Mr. T. Barwick, of Greyhound-yard, succeeded him as town crier.

* Towle was tried at the next assizes and acquitted. He was however subsequently arraigned at Leicester for another offence, and suffered death.

- 1814 In the spring of this year, records Blackner, the county magistrates appointed Daniel Freeth, Esq., and Mr. R. Goodacre, of the academy, overseers of the poor for the supposed parish of Standard-hill, adjoining the Castle, Park, and town of Nottingham; and in the autumn, a young woman, who was supposed to have obtained a settlement on Standard-hill, having been found in St. Mary's parish, in a state which justified the interference of the officers, she was taken with a regular order of removal to the house of one of the aforesaid overseers, and by him refused admittance. Legal means were about to be commenced, when it was found that the appointment of overseers was in itself informal, and the case was permitted to drop. However, in the spring of the following year, a new appointment was made, free from the informality of its predecessor, and Mr. S. Freeth and Mr. W. Stretton were this time selected. The inhabitants then deemed it necessary to adopt measures of defence. The extra-parochial property was divided into shares, a purse was raised, and the Court of King's Bench successfully moved for a rule calling upon the justices to show by what authority they had appointed the overseers. The three town parishes made common cause in support of the magistrates, and during the following Michaelmas term the question was fully argued. The ultimate decision was, "that Standard-hill not being an ancient ville, or a ville by reputation, is not subject to the jurisdiction of justices in the appointment of overseers."

Standard-hill contains a little more than 9,000 square yards, or about one acre, three roods, eighteen perches, and was sold by the yard, in 1807, for nearly £7,000.

1815.

- 1815 *March 3.*—Thomas Ripon, Gent., of Crown-yard, Long-row, died this day, aged 75 years. He was a man of remarkably small stature, not exceeding thirty-four inches in height, and was generally respected. A few days before his death, he gave directions for the making of his own coffin, which, to humour his eccentricity, was constructed six feet in length. When brought home, he got into it, and expressed his entire satisfaction.

March 21.—John Hemstock, *alias* Black, was convicted at the County Hall, before Mr. Justice Bayley, of the crime of wilful murder. He was 19 years of age, and had been in the service of Mr. Wells, a farmer, of Claborough, near Retford, but had left his place about five months, and was then induced to break into his late master's premises in search of plunder. It happened that on his arrival at the house, the only inmate was a boy named James Snell, a nephew of Mr. Wells, who had been left to take care of the place during the absence of the other

members of the family at the neighbouring statutes. He murdered the lad by striking him on the head with a bar of wood, and then cutting his throat with a razor. The murderer then broke open a desk, and took therefrom two £1 notes of the old Retford bank of Messrs. Pocklington and Dickenson, which had suspended payment some time previously. With these he hastened to the statutes to enjoy himself, where he showed the notes to an acquaintance named Milnes, but finding that the townspeople would not receive them, he had to exert all his address in passing them off to an itinerant pedlar, a circumstance that led to his detection. 1815

On sentence being pronounced, the prisoner, who till then had preserved a tranquil countenance, was greatly agitated and shed tears. He begged most earnestly of the Judge to remit that part of it which ordered his body to be dissected and anatomised, and requested that it might be buried in a grave. But the Judge held out to him no hope, and expressed his regret that the prisoner should have so much concern for his body and so little for his soul. Hemstock was hung on the 23rd. The body was taken to the General Hospital for dissection and exposure, where the skeleton, hung on wires, was kept for many years.

July 22.—The County Court was excessively crowded to witness the proceedings before Mr. Baron Graham, in the case, the King *v.* Sutton. This was a criminal information, filed by the Attorney-General, *ex officio*, against Mr. Charles Sutton, proprietor of the *Nottingham Review*, for an alleged libel inserted in that journal in the month of October previous. It was intended that the whole of the jury should have been special, but as several of the gentlemen who had been subpoenaed for the purpose, did not answer to their names, the deficiency was supplied from the petit jurors. Mr. Gurney took down the proceedings on the part of the Crown.

Mr. J. Balguy opened the pleadings by reading the article complained of in the record, which was a letter addressed in the usual form to the editor of the paper (and written, though this was not mentioned in court, by a professional gentleman of considerable local standing). The document is too lengthy to be given here *in extenso*, but its purport and offensiveness to the Government of the day will be apparent from the annexed summary :—

The letter was ostensibly from "General Ludd," who had taken the liberty to drop a few lines to the editor, to inform him of the good fortune of one of his sons, who had risen to very high honour. "You must know," it proceeded, "that some time ago, owing to a little imprudent conduct, my eldest son Ned decamped, and enlisted into his Majesty's service, and as he was notorious for *heroism* and *honourable* enterprise, he was entrusted with a commission to exercise his prowess against the Americans, and I am happy to say, has acquitted himself in a way which will

1815 establish his fame to generations yet unborn. I assure you, Mr. Editor, that I hardly know how to keep my feelings within bounds; for while all former and united efforts in breaking frames, &c., were commented upon with some severity, and in a way which cast odium upon my character and that of my family, I now find the scales are turned, and our enemies are converted into friends; they sing a new tune to an old song, and the mighty deeds of my son are trumpeted forth in every local paper in the country. My son is not now confined to the breaking of a few frames; having the sanction of Government, he can now not only wield his great hammer to break printing presses and types, but he has a license to set fire to places and property which he deems obnoxious, and now and then a little *private pillage* is winked at."

The satire, after some personal and unimportant remarks on Mr. Tupman and his *Nottingham Gazette* (a journal which ceased to exist shortly after), concluded thus:—"Now, I really think, as my son has become truly loyal and is working for his country's good, and all under the sanction of the Crown, and as his achievements have been first-rate, 'old grievances ought not to be repeated;' though, by-the-bye, I am of opinion that all which I and my son have done in Nottingham and the neighbourhood is not half so bad as what my son has done in America; but then, you know, he has supreme orders from indisputable authority for his operations in America, and that makes all the difference."

Mr. Clarke, K.C., addressed the jury at great length, on the pernicious tendency of the letter, which, he contended, held up to contempt the proceedings of the King's executive government, stigmatised and degraded the British army, who had by their heroic achievements so nobly upheld the honour and fame of their country, and was calculated to excite disaffection and encourage the Luddites to persevere in their lawless outrages, to the great injury of individuals and the disturbance of the public peace. Referring to the imputation on the conduct of the British army at the capture of Washington, the learned counsel said, with marked emphasis, he would not believe, nor could anyone believe, that the excesses imputed to them were committed by British soldiers, much less that they were sent out with supreme orders from his Majesty's Government for the purpose. He did not hesitate, under every view of the subject, to pronounce the whole article to be a most vile, wicked, and flagitious libel, and had no doubt the jury would be of the same opinion.

Mr. Hobhouse, Solicitor to the Treasury, proved that defendant was the publisher of the *Review*, gave evidence as to the publication of the official proclamation of war with the United States, and of the act of Parliament to suppress Luddism, and volunteered his own construction of the words of the alleged libel. Several witnesses were then called to prove that Luddism was prevalent in the town and neighbourhood, and the population in an excitable state, at the time the letter was published.

The case for the Crown having closed, Mr. Denman (afterwards Lord Chief Justice), addressed the jury for more than two hours in behalf of the defendant. The learned gentleman's speech was able, eloquent, and argumentative, and laid, it is understood, the foundation of his future renown. He entered into an elaborate defence of the liberty of the press. It was by this liberty or privilege alone, he contended, that the errors of Government could be made known. It was in the exercise of this privilege that the article noticed in the record had been admitted into the *Review*; but he disclaimed for his client any of the intentions imputed by the learned counsel on the other side. On the contrary, both before and subsequent to the appearance of the article charged as a libel, the editor had reprobated in the strongest language and expressed his unqualified abhorrence of every act of outrage committed by the Luddites.

Mr. Clarke replied, and the Judge summing up at great length with an obvious leaning to the propriety of a conviction, the jury, after about a minute's consultation, returned a verdict of guilty. Defendant was then ordered to appear at the Court of King's Bench, on the first day of the next term, to receive judgment.

Counsel for the prosecution, Mr. Clarke, K.C., and Mr. Serjeant Vaughan: for the defendant, Mr. Denman, Mr. Phillips, and Mr. Reader.

When Michaelmas term arrived, Mr. Denman obtained a rule calling upon the Crown to show cause why the verdict given at the Assizes should not be set aside and a new trial granted.

The case was argued in January, 1816. Lord Ellenborough presided, and the Attorney-General, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Vaughan, and Mr. Balguy severally showed cause against the rule, which had been granted on the ground of misdirection on the part of the Judge, and Mr. Denman and Mr. Phillips appeared in its support. But the Judges being unanimously of opinion that there was no cause for disturbing the verdict given by the jury, the rule was discharged. The defendant appeared at the Court of King's Bench, to receive judgment, on the 9th of February. Mr. Denman addressed the Court for above an hour in his favour, and the Attorney-General was heard in reply. Sentence was then pronounced by Mr. Justice Le Blanc, who addressed the defendant at great length, and ordered him to be imprisoned in his Majesty's gaol at Northampton for one year, and at the expiration of that time to give security for his good behaviour for three years, himself in £500 and two sufficient sureties in £250 each.

Mr. Sutton was removed the following week from the King's Bench prison to the County Gaol of Northampton, where he was confined in the debtors' ward, and received every indulgence, short of liberation, that he desired. He was released on the 8th of February, 1817.

July.—A public subscription to the extent of £1,200 was

1815 raised in the town and neighbourhood, for the relief of the families of the killed and wounded who fought at Waterloo, on the 18th of June.

There had been no public celebration in Nottingham of this the most memorable of British victories, excepting the simple circumstance of the Cambridge Regiment of Militia, which then happened to be quartered in the town, discharging a *feu de joie* in the Market-place.

Amongst the slain on the field of Waterloo was a native of Wollaton, whose name and exploits are known almost universally. An eminent tourist remarks, "At La Haye Sainte I saw the grave of Shaw, the Life Guardsman, who with his single arm destroyed eight of the enemy. The guide informed me that he beheld the body of this brave soldier after the breath was out of it, and was struck with the muscular development and appearance of vast strength which it exhibited. His heart was as big and as strong as his body. He rushed headlong into the hostile masses, and woe to the man who had the temerity to measure swords with him. Before him fell the cuirassiers like children: he laughed at their defensive armoury, their breast-plates of steel, their helmets of brass. In the battle he received no wound of any consequence, but died from the loss of blood occasioned by a multitude of small ones. He was several times commanded by his officers to retire and have his wounds dressed; but preferring glory to safety, he neglected the advice, and continued fighting till he bled to death. Had this gallant soldier been in the French army, and survived the scene of his exploits, he would have risen to the rank of a general; had he lived in the time of the Crusades, he would have proved a second Richard or Rinaldo. Shaw's talents were not confined to the sword; he was a tremendous pugilist, fought several times in the ring, and never was beaten. Such was the confidence he possessed in himself, that he challenged all England, at a time when the ring was in its high and palmy state; nor, from what was known of his capabilities, was it doubted that he would have proved at least an equal match for any man who could have been brought against him. Peace to the manes of Corporal Shaw!"

August 16.—The Particular Baptist chapel in George-street first opened for Divine worship. The Rev. T. Morgan and the Rev. I. Burt, of Birmingham, and the Rev. T. Roberts, of Bristol, preached on the occasion. The collections at the close of the services amounted to £182 10s. The entire cost of the building, including the site and the spacious school-rooms at the back, was £6,000.

The early history of this religious community in Nottingham is involved in much obscurity. Such indeed is the case with the Particular Baptists generally; for though they are probably a more ancient denomination than the Independents, their early records are lost. On few other societies has the hand of persecution

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pressed so heavily as on this. Not conforming to pædo-baptism, they were denied the rite of Christian burial, and many of the early members were buried in private gardens. Hence, whenever a church was founded, its members generally secured for themselves a place of burial preliminary to the erection of a chapel. It was so in Nottingham, and the small cemetery on the west side of Mount-street was founded by the Baptists at a date anterior to the building of the meeting-house in Park-street.* This edifice, which measures 60 feet by 27, and was the oldest Baptist chapel in the neighbourhood, was built in 1724, by Cornelius Launder, Esq., who sold it to the denomination for the sum of £100.

The names of the early pastors of the church in Park-street are completely lost. In 1751, Mr. George Eaton was the recognised preacher; and for some time prior to the ordination of the Rev. R. Hopper in 1770, Abraham Booth, author of the well known "Reign of Grace," and afterwards pastor of a church in London, was a frequent preacher. Mr. Booth was then a framework knitter, residing at Sutton-in-Ashfield, and was accustomed to perform his periodic journey to Nottingham on foot. Mr. Hopper sustained the pastoral office till his resignation in 1804, and died November 4th, 1826, aged 88 years. He was succeeded in the former year by the Rev. John Jarman, previously the Baptist minister of Oakham, and under his able charge the interest so increased as to justify the erection of the chapel in George-street. The old meeting-house was abandoned to the Scotch Baptists, who occupied it until they removed to the more commodious chapel in Circus-street in the year 1859.

On the demise of Mr. Jarman, February 5th, 1830, the Rev. J. Edwards was chosen as his successor. In 1847, some differences arose, and eventually sixty-four members, including several of the deacons, seceded, and for a time worshipped in a large room in Clinton-street. Subsequently they occupied the old chapel of the Society of Friends, in Spaniel-row, where, in May, 1848, they obtained the services of the Rev. J. A. Baynes, B.A., of Poplar, near London. Under his talented ministry their numbers greatly increased, and after occupying the Mechanics' Hall for some months, they removed, July 9th, 1850, to their spacious and elegant structure on Derby-road, which cost about £5,000.

August 21.—A cricket match of extraordinary interest, for one hundred guineas, was played on the newly formed ground near the Race Stand. The competitors were, G. Osbaldeston, Esq., M.P., with the choice of all England for a fielder, and the two crack players of the Nottingham club, Joseph Dennis and Humphrey Hopkin. Two shillings was the sum freely paid by numbers of county gentlemen for admission to the Stand, and an immense number of spectators assembled on the ground. Mr. Osbaldeston winning the toss, went in first, and the skill and gracefulness he displayed in the use of the bat, he being incomparably the

* Now occupied as a warehouse by Mr. W. McCraith.

1815 most accomplished player of the day, excited unqualified admiration. For more than four hours he kept his opponents in full exercise, and put their skill to the test in every possible position, and then resigned the bat, after having completed 86 runs, with as little prospect of his being got out as at the commencement of the game.

The game was resumed the next morning, Mr. Osbaldeston's fielder being Lambert, of Lord's Ground. Hopkin scored 11 and 3, and Dennis, 1 and 2, making a total of 17. The extremely rapid bowling of Mr. Osbaldeston lowered their wickets in a manner then deemed highly suprising.

September 18.—Accidental death of George Coldham, Esq., solicitor, of this town, aged 49 years. The circumstances were these:—Mr. Coldham and his friend Mr. Butler were on their return from Worthing to Brighton in a gig, and when proceeding at a walking pace down Church-hill, in the latter place, the horse suddenly took fright, and ran the vehicle against the wall. Both gentlemen were thrown out, and Mr. Coldham pitching with his head against a post, received so severe an injury, that he died in about half-an-hour at the Castle Tavern, where he had been staying. Mr. Butler was comparatively unhurt.

Mr. Coldham's remains were interred in Brighton church-yard, where a stone perpetuates his memory. There is also a neat marble tablet on the wall of the interior of St. Mary's, in this town. It states, after recording his name, &c., "This tablet was erected by vote of the Mayor and Common Council of Nottingham, in order publicly to express their high sense of the probity, ability, and signal advantage to the Corporation with which for twenty-four years he performed the several functions of his office of Town Clerk; and their warmest commendation of his meritorious exertions in the preservation of the peace of this populous town, during the late threatening period." A portrait of the deceased gentleman is in the Castle Museum.

September 26.—Henry Enfield, Esq., appointed Town Clerk.

September 29.—Mr. Ald. Charles Lomas Morley appointed Mayor; Mr. Richard Hopper, junr., and Mr. Thomas Wakefield, Sheriffs.

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1816 *January 11.*—John Balguy, Esq., who had filled the office of Deputy Recorder of the town twenty-nine years, having resigned, was succeeded by Thomas Denman, Esq.

March 4.—At a meeting of gentlemen in Thurland Hall, John Wright, Esq., in the chair, it was resolved to commence "the Nottingham Subscription Library." Dr. Storer took a very active part in its formation.

March 17.—Nottingham, in common with a great part of the North Midland district, experienced a smart shock of earthquake. It was felt at half-past twelve p.m., and as Divine service, it being Sunday, was not over at the churches, great alarm was expressed by the congregations. At St. Peter's and St. Nicholas's, the consternation was so great that service had to be suspended for a few seconds, and one lady was borne out in a state of insensibility. The pillars supporting St. Mary's tower shook very visibly, but fortunately the attention of the crowded congregation was so engrossed by the eloquence of the Sheriff's chaplain, and the presence of the Judge and his retinue, that the alarm was but slight, or the rush and loss of life might have been great. In various parts of the town and neighbourhood glasses were shaken off the shelves, articles of domestic use displaced, window casements thrown open, and other indications manifest of the influence of the subterranean movement.

April 3.—Execution of John Simpson, *alias* Daniel Simpson, for committing several highway robberies. The offences in particular for which he suffered, were, robbing Mr. Thos. Needham, of Lambley, of 29s. and a bundle of cotton, and Mr. Joseph Bowes, of Eastwood, of a silver watch and a £1 note. Simpson was a native of Ashton-under-Lyne, and after being taught something of the stocking-making business at Lancaster, came to Nottingham in 1799, at the age of 16 years. He had worked at Melbourne, Mansfield, Sutton, and Arnold, as well as in this town, and had assumed a great variety of names. He was married twice, and his second wife was a native of Arnold.

May 24.—The first stone of the Methodist New Connexion chapel in Parliament-street, was laid by Robert Hall, Esq., of Sneinton, in the presence of a large assemblage of spectators. The Revs. W. Chapman, C. Atkinson, and W. Jones took part in the ceremonial.

June 9.—About one a.m., a party of men, disguised and armed with various sorts of weapons, broke into the house of Mr. Wm. Wright, of New Radford, and seven of them rushed upstairs into the workshops. Twelve valuable point-net frames, the object of their visit, were then utterly demolished, and "Ned Ludd," to use a common expression of the day, "having turned thief" (a change of moral purpose that contributed more powerfully perhaps than any other cause to suppress the outrages committed in his name, by exasperating the public mind, which hitherto had too much sympathised with his adherents), a few yards of net were stolen. Mr. Wright was from home at the time, but one of the inmates, supposing that she knew two of the men, gave such information as led to their apprehension.

The trial of these men, Thomas Glover and John Chettle, before Mr. Justice Graham, on Saturday, the 3rd of the following August, was one of the most memorable in our local annals. It commenced in the afternoon, and did not terminate until about

1816 two o'clock on Sunday morning. The indictment charged the prisoners with feloniously entering Mr. Wright's dwelling-house, and breaking therein twelve frames. Mr. Clarke and Mr. Reader were counsel for the prosecution: Mr. Denman was sole counsel for the accused, and added to his rapidly rising reputation by the ability with which he conducted and established the *alibi* set up, unquestionably one of the most perfect ever submitted to a court of justice. Fortunately for the preservation of the public peace, the result of the trial was the acquittal of both prisoners. Had it been otherwise, the most fearful consequences would doubtless have ensued, for the body of the Hall was for hours in possession of a number of determined men, who would not suffer a light to appear in court, excepting on the bench and the counsel table. It is also notorious that a number of confederates, with loaded pistols, were in the outer hall, and that the constables and javelin-men were quite unable to maintain order. The verdict of not guilty was received with a tremendous shout of exultation, which was echoed and re-echoed with increasing volume, notwithstanding the attempts of the Judge and officers of the Court to suppress it. Issuing out of the Hall, and almost delirious with excitement, the men then paraded the town, shouting and rejoicing, for several hours.

It is understood that had the verdict been adverse, both Judge and jury would have been assassinated; and so serious was the alarm afterwards produced that it was contemplated to make Newark the assize town instead of Nottingham.

Chettle died at New Radford, in July, 1838, aged 64 years; and Glover at his house on Mansfield-road, in January, 1839, aged 54 years.

July 8.—Lord William Bentinck (Whig) again elected M.P. for the county, in the place of Lord Newark, who had succeeded to the family title, Earl Manvers.

July 15.—Thomas Denman, Esq., presented with the freedom of the town.

August 1.—Mr. Jonathan Dunn appointed Coroner in the place of Mr. Wm. Wells.

September 25.—A large public meeting, convened by the Mayor, consisting of more than five thousand persons, was held in Weekday-cross, at which a memorial was agreed to, calling upon the Prince Regent to "reduce the dangerous and unconstitutional military establishment in this country, to abolish all sinecure places and unmerited pensions. to enforce a rigid economy in the expenditure of the public money, and to give to the people, what is their inalienable right, a full, fair, free, and equal representation in the Commons' House of Parliament." The memorial was moved and supported by Mr. Geo. Gill, Mr. Thomas Bailey, and Mr. R. Denison.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman William Wilson appointed Mayor; Mr. George Gill and Mr. Roger Allen, Sheriffs.

October 4.—As the mail coach to Derby was setting out this morning, it overturned in the Market-place, near the Bell inn. One of the passengers, a Mr. Owen, of Derby, was killed on the spot; another sustained a compound fracture of the leg and thigh; and a lady was very seriously injured.

November 20.—Execution of James Towle, at Leicester.

Towle was a native of Basford, where he left a wife and four young children, and was 36 years of age. The offence for which he suffered the extreme penalty of the law was committed at Loughborough. At midnight on Friday the 28th of the previous June, a number of men, principally from the neighbourhood of Nottingham, some of whom were armed and disguised, entered the "casting-shop" attached to the rear part of Messrs. Heathcoat and Boden's lace factory, on the Ashby-road. In this small room were three watchers, John Asher, Thomas Ironman, and John Webster, workmen of the factory, the former of whom snatched up a pistol, and pointed it at the Luddites as they were coming in at the door; but though the trigger was pulled, it did not go off. One of the assailing party, in return, instantly fired at Asher with a blunderbuss, and inflicting a wound at the back of the head, rendered him insensible. Ironman was struck to the ground by a blow at the same moment; and Webster, who had run out of doors, in an endeavour to escape, was quickly brought back again, and placed in guard by the side of his companions. Some of the Luddites then, with lights in their hands, proceeded through the large room, called the setting-up room, to the bottom of the staircase, where they knocked down a youth whom they met named Ambrose Woodford, placed over him a guard as they had done to the others, and then ran up to "the first floor." This consisted of three compartments, containing twenty-five machines, the whole of which they demolished, having previously secured in one of the compartments, James Powell, William Soars, and John North, in the same way as they had done the others. The adventurous men then directed their attention to the large room above, in which were thirty machines and five men, whose names were Joseph Sherwin, Samuel Street, William Squires, John Langham, and Thomas Smith. The first of these expressed to his associates a determination to resist the invaders, but, probably from being overheard, could not carry it out. The assailants succeeded in rendering them powerless with terror, by assuming on the staircase a sort of military tread, and one of them shouting, with a stentorian voice, "Advance with the blunderbusses; more blunderbusses here!" Having entered the room, the Luddites ordered the five to at once prostrate themselves with their faces to the floor, and not to look about under pain of death, and guards were posted to enforce the imperious command. This preliminary being settled, the men proceeded with their work of devastation like furies. But after toiling for seven or eight minutes, as if animated by a common impulse, they suddenly

1816 stopped, and by listening for a few seconds reassuring themselves that all was right below, at it they went again with renewed eagerness, at the command of their leader, who vociferated, "All's well! Ned Ludd, do your duty well. It's a Waterloo job, by God!" In about a quarter of an hour further, they finished their undertaking, having destroyed or rendered useless fifty-five machines, the value of which Mr. John Boden, one of the proprietors, estimated at £7,500. Before quitting the factory, they enjoined the workmen, with most terrible threats, not to stir for the space of ten minutes, and one of them shook hands with Asher, the wounded man, and expressed a hope that he would soon get better. Independently of the Luddites who entered the factory, there were several outside, making, as was subsequently ascertained by the confession of several of them, the total number of seventeen. Their names were, William Burton, James Towle, William Towle, John Clarke *alias* Little Sam, Samuel Cauldwell, John Disney, Aaron Daykin, William Withers, John Blackburne, Christopher Blackburne, Joshua Mitchell, John Hill, Thomas Savidge, J. Crowther, J. Amos, James Watson, and J. Slater.

James Towle was indicted at the assizes, on the 10th of August, for having entered the premises, on the night in question, and discharged a pistol at Asher, with intent to murder him; and from the testimony of Asher and several of the factory-men who appeared in evidence, he was adjudged guilty "of aiding and abetting, but not of firing the pistol." Mr. Baron Graham then sentenced him to be hung. The trial occupied fourteen hours. John Slater and Benjamin Badder, who were indicted with him on the same charge, were acquitted.

The circumstances that led to his conviction were these. During the attack on the factory, Towle was so reckless as to wear no other disguise than a silk handkerchief tied round his lower jaw; this slipped down once or twice, and his peculiar contour of visage being fully exposed, was positively sworn to by two of the witnesses. He had also been heard to say, by Mr. James Lawson, the constable, on the Tuesday previous to the outrage, in a public-house, that there would be "a job before long; it will happen (he said) next Friday night, unless put off, and then it will happen on Saturday night." And to further strengthen the case against him, police constable Benjamin Barnes deposed that, having seen a messenger Mr. Boden had despatched to the Nottingham Police Office immediately on the outrage taking place, he set out at seven o'clock, through New Basford, where Towle lived, towards the Trent, near Beeston, and about eight o'clock, succeeded in meeting the prisoner on the highway in the latter village, coming in the direction from Loughborough, and though Towle turned his face towards the hedge and tried to elude his recognition, he rode up to him, and persuaded him to join in drinking a glass of gin at a neighbouring public-house. His shoes were wet, and he looked fatigued.

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The long interval, more than three months, between the conviction and execution, was occasioned by an objection that Mr. Denman made at the trial, to the form of the indictment. The point in dispute was referred to the decision of the twelve judges, and was by them settled against the prisoner, on the 13th of November. Mr. Denman and Mr. Balguy were engaged for Towle; and Messrs. Vaughan, Copley, Clarke, Reader, and Reynolds for the prosecution.

On the morning of execution, Towle was conveyed in a chaise to "the new drop" at the Leicester County Gaol. He ascended the platform at twelve o'clock, and after praying with the chaplain for a few minutes, advanced to the front, and with a firm and audible voice, gave out the well known hymn by Dr. Watts, commencing with,

Oh, for an overooming faith,
To cheer my dying hours;
To triumph o'er the monster death,
With all his frightful powers.

He gave out the whole of this hymn, two lines at a time, and joined in singing it with the utmost fervour. The drop then fell. The corpse was buried at Basford the following afternoon, in the presence of several thousand spectators.

December 10.—Owing to the scarcity of bread, good wheat readily realizing 140s. per quarter, there was much suffering and a great deficiency of employment. A public meeting on the subject was held in the Town Hall, the Mayor in the chair, at which it was resolved to enter into a subscription for the relief of the destitute, not otherwise provided for. The amount raised was £4,184. In addition to this liberal amount, the London Association contributed twenty tons of red herrings, Lord Middleton gave three hundred tons of coal, and the parish of St. Nicholas expended £500 on a separate soup establishment. The poor-rates were also excessively heavy.

December 22.—Death of Mr. John Blackner, landlord of the Ranciffe Arms, Sussex-street, and author of the History of Nottingham and other publications, in the 47th year of his age.

In the latter part of the year, there being numerous robberies and disturbances, the provisions of the Watching and Warding Act were brought into operation. All male inhabitants of the town, rated to the relief of the poor, above the age of seventeen years, were subject to be called out, in parties of twenty-five each, and with a constable at their head, had to parade the streets, and keep watch throughout the night. The fine for neglect of duty was any sum the magistrates might think proper to impose, between 40s. and £10. This system of night police was continued till the following summer.

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January 22.—An immense public meeting was held in Week-day Cross, to petition for Parliamentary Reform. The speakers, who stood on the Town Hall steps, were, the Mayor (who presided), Robert Denison, Esq., Mr. Alderman Ashwell, Mr. Cartledge, Mr. Jonathan Dunn, and Mr. T. Wylde. The petition, which prayed for retrenchment and reform, universal suffrage, annual Parliaments, &c., was unanimously adopted, and subsequently received the signatures of six thousand male inhabitants.

February 24.—In consequence of the precipitancy with which Ministers were passing the Habeas Corpus Suspension Bill through Parliament, a public meeting of the inhabitants was held, Mr. R. Bonnington in the chair, at which a petition was resolved upon, calling upon the House of Commons "to pause ere it suspended the liberties of the people."

March 18.—Daniel Diggle, aged 21 years, was arraigned before Mr. Baron Richards, at the County Hall, charged with attempting to shoot Mr. George Kerrey. He pleaded guilty, but withdrew his plea at the suggestion of the Judge.

It was proved that on the night of Sunday, the 22nd of the previous December, Diggle, accompanied by William Burton and two other men, named Henfrey and Wolley, went on a frame-breaking expedition to the house of Mr. George Kerrey, of Radford. Kerrey making some resistance, prisoner fired a pistol at him, two or three shotcorns from which entered his head, but did not seriously injure him. Diggle, however, thought he had killed him, and with his confederates made a precipitate retreat.

The apprehension of this offender was attended by a complete dissolution of the elements of Luddism. On the night of the 2nd of January, Diggle, in company with men named Blackborne, Burton, Mellors, Austin, his brother Nathan, Henfrey, Wolley, and Shaw, having become utterly reckless of consequences, when out on a poaching excursion near Trowell, wantonly beset the house of Mr. William Cook, of Shortwood, Lord Middleton's gamekeeper, and fired at him several times through his bedroom window. Diggle and several others being arrested for this offence, began to impeach each other, and William Burton, who was one of them, was admitted as King's evidence, and ensured Diggle's conviction on the charge of shooting at Kerrey. Towle, during his long imprisonment, had also made a disclosure of the names of his accomplices, so that the authorities, being now fully assured they were on the right track, by a vigorous stroke secured nearly all the men engaged in the Loughborough outrage.

Fears of an attempt at rescue being entertained, it was resolved to execute Diggle in front of the County Gaol, which was

carried into effect on the 2nd of April. About eight o'clock, the culprit was brought out through the County Hall door, in a light cart, along the platform raised on the steps, under the fatal tree. He appeared firm and collected, and addressing himself to the numerous spectators, said it was Ludding that had brought him to that untimely end. After a few minutes spent in prayer, the cart was drawn off, and he was launched into eternity. His body was afterwards delivered to his friends for interment. He was a stout, good-looking man, but extremely illiterate; had just attained his 21st year, and had not long been married. 1817

March 31 & April 1.—John Clarke, Thomas Savidge, William Withers, John Amos, John Crowther, Joshua Mitchell, William Towle, and James Watson, were convicted at Leicester, before the Hon. Sir R. Richards, of being concerned in the attempt to shoot John Asher, at Loughborough. John Blackburne, of Lambley, and William Burton, two accomplices, were the chief witnesses against them. The former of the two acknowledged that it was himself who fired at Asher, without the connivance or consent of any of the rest.

About half-past five o'clock on Thursday morning, April 17th, the condemned men, with the exception of Clarke and Watson, who were reprieved, were removed from the County Gaol, in a covered cart, escorted by a squadron of Hussars, to the New Bridewell, adjoining the Infirmary, where they immediately proceeded to prayer and continued very devoutly engaged the greater part of the morning. About twelve o'clock they made their appearance on the platform, chained together by the wrist. Savidge was placed first, Mitchell second, Amos third, Towle fourth, Crowther fifth, Withers sixth, and Babington or Beavington (executed for setting fire to a stack of oats) seventh. After bowing to the vast number of persons assembled, Savidge, Amos, and Babington shortly addressed them. Mitchell wished to read a paper, but was not permitted. Amos then invited the crowd to join them in singing a hymn, which he gave out, two lines at a time, in an audible and distinct manner, and was joined therein by the others with equally distinct voices.

The last offices of devotion being concluded, Mr. Musson and the executioner proceeded to adjust the ropes, during which the prisoners shook hands with each other, and bade farewell to several friends whom they recognised, throwing to each some oranges, with a request that they might be given to their children, &c. Having shaken hands with the High Sheriff, clergyman, gaoler, &c., Amos, at about half-past twelve, gave a signal by stamping his foot, when the fatal board fell, and they were launched into eternity.

Savidge was a fine, tall, well-dressed, sensible-looking man, and appeared to be offering up his prayers with great earnestness when he was tied up. Mitchell, a well-made, bold-looking, well-dressed man, did not appear quite so devout. He assisted in

1817 adjusting Savidge's rope, as well as his own, with an unexampled coolness. Amos, a tall, strong, decently-dressed man, witnessed his fate with a smile upon his countenance, and seemed to be a man possessing great strength of mind. Towle, a fresh-looking youth, betrayed no symptoms of agitation until the cap was pulled over his face, when he seemed much affected. Crowther also seemed much agitated towards the last, as did Withers a little.

A troop of Hussars were in attendance, and we understand the Yeomanry Cavalry were also in readiness, in case any attempt at rescue or disorder should have been made; but the whole passed over without any interruption.

The bodies were placed in shells, and brought to Nottingham for interment, where they arrived on Friday morning about three o'clock. Mitchell, Amos, Withers, and Crowther were interred in St. Mary's churchyard; the former at about five in the morning, the three latter about five in the afternoon. Savidge was interred in the New Burying-ground, about the same hour as the latter. Towle was taken to Chilwell, where his friends resided. Savidge, aged 39 years, left a wife and five children; Amos, aged 30 years, a wife and five children; Mitchell, aged 29 years, unmarried; Withers, aged 33 years, a wife and one child; Crowther, aged 40 years, a wife and five children; these were natives of Nottingham: and Towle, aged 22 years, a wife and one child, a native of Chilwell.

Of the seventeen Luddites engaged in the attack on Messrs. Heathcoat and Boden's factory seven were executed. The informers, Blackborne and Burton, were sent by Government, with a grant of land, as emigrants to Nova Scotia; Clark, Watson, and Slater were transported to Australia; and Disney died at Sheepshead, in August, 1850. The escape of Disney was a very narrow one. A large reward was offered for his apprehension, but he contrived to evade all the vigilance of the police, though many times very hard pressed for shelter. On one occasion, so certain were his pursuers that they were close upon him, yet could not discover him, that they kept watch upon a certain spot for nearly three whole days and nights, during which time their object lay concealed under the litter of a dunghill. At length the watch was given up, and Disney, almost reduced to a skeleton, escaped from his hiding place and reached a situation of greater security. After several years' concealment in different parts and places, and passing through various trials and occupations, a pardon was obtained for him through the strenuous mediation of C. M. Phillips, Esq., M.P. for Leicestershire.

Some of those who took a decided part in secret in collecting funds for the promoters of Luddism, afterwards rose to station and opulence. Had there been no funds raised to encourage the practical Ned Ludds, it is evident there would have been very little destruction of machinery; for the actual perpetrators were animated as much by the hope of pecuniary ~~the~~ the

mistaken idea that they were benefiting trade. For "the Loughborough job," as they called it, the men were to receive £100, and one of the survivors afterwards stated that some of Mr. Heathcoat's own men, as well as many of those employed by Lacey, a rival manufacturer in the same town, not only subscribed money, but first suggested the idea of breaking five or six machines, Mr. Heathcoat having recently greatly reduced their wages.

April.—A petition, very numerous and respectably signed, imploring the Prince Regent to exercise the Royal prerogative in favour of the men condemned at Leicester was taken to London by Mr. Gravenor Henson and Mr. W. Robinson. They thought it advisable, previous to calling at Lord Sidmouth's office, to wait upon a gentleman of influence, to second their exertions. This Henson agreed to do himself, and Robinson was to wait for his return in St. James's Park. They had no sooner separated, than a Crown officer took Henson into custody. Robinson waited about three hours for his companion, but in vain. He then returned to their inn, and learnt that an officer, in company with a gentleman from Nottingham, had been there while he was waiting in the Park, and had seized Henson's box and papers, he having been arrested on suspicion of high treason. The unlucky Gravenor was lodged in Coldbath-fields prison, where he was confined seven months as a State prisoner, and then liberated on his own recognizances to appear again when called on. He was taken on one occasion before Lords Sidmouth and Castlereagh and the law officers of the Government, and underwent a long and rigid examination.

June 23, 24, & 25.—A grand cricket match, for 500 guineas, between twenty-two of the Nottingham club and eleven of all England, was played on the Forest ground. On the side of all England the players were, G. Osbaldeston, Esq., M.P. (who did not succeed in scoring a notch in either innings), Lord Frederick Beauclerk, E. Budd, Esq., and Bennett, Bentley, Beldham, Holloway, Lambert, Howard, Shearman, and Slater. Nottingham was represented by Dennis, Hopkin, Clark, Britain, Henson, Thorpe, Leeson, T. Warsop, R. Jeffries, Pacey, R. Warsop, G. Smith, Holmes, Bramley, W. Hewitt, T. Hewitt, W. Warsop, Foster, W. Jeffries, Brewster, Hudson, and Chapman. The result was, that our townsmen scored 50 and 98, and their opponents, who had confidently anticipated an easy victory, 53 and 65. The highest number of runs was by Smith, who scored 29.

July 25.—Charles Rotherham, of Sheffield, aged 33 years, was arraigned at the County Hall, before the Hon. Sir John Bayley, on a charge of wilfully murdering a young woman, named Elizabeth Shepherd, on the 7th of July. To this charge he at first pleaded guilty, but was afterwards prevailed upon by the Judge to submit to a trial.

It came out in evidence, that the murdered girl left her mother's house at Papplewick, between twelve and one at noon,

1817 for the purpose of going to Mansfield, to seek for a place in service. She had on a pair of shoes that were new the Sunday before, and had with her a light coloured cotton umbrella. At six, she was seen to leave Mansfield on her return home, and early the next morning her body was found in a ditch by the roadside, about fifty yards to the south of the third milestone. Her skull was horribly fractured, and a large hedgestake lay near the body. This was produced in court, and being nearly five feet in length, and clotted with blood at the upper end, a thrill of horror ran through the spectators. The victim was a finely formed young woman only seventeen years of age.

It was proved that Rotherham was seen drinking at the Hut soon after the supposed time of the murder, and that he slept during the night at the Three Crowns inn, Redhill, where he had offered the girl's shoes and umbrella for sale, but not meeting with a purchaser, had left the former in his bedroom when he went away at seven the next morning. He sold the umbrella at Bunny.

Mr. B. Barnes, of this town, being ordered in pursuit, tracked the prisoner as far as Loughborough, where he apprehended him. On the Wednesday following, he had to take him to attend the Coroner's inquisition at Sutton-in-Ashfield, and on returning to Nottingham prisoner made a full confession of his guilt. As they passed the place where the deed was perpetrated he pointed to it, and a little further on, on the opposite side, was the hedge from which he drew the stake. He added, he could not tell what possessed him at the moment; he never spoke to the woman, but the instant he overtook her, he struck her on the head, and repeated the blows until she was lifeless. He then turned her pocket inside out, but not finding anything in it, he cut open her stays in front, in expectation of discovering money in concealment, but the search being in vain, he was obliged to be content with her shoes and umbrella—the very things which led to his detection.

Being of course pronounced guilty, he was hung on the 28th, at Gallows-hill. The body was taken to the County Hall, and after the surgeons had performed their duty, was exposed to public view in the Nisi Prius Court. Ultimately, it was buried at the back of St. Mary's church.

Rotherham had been apprenticed to a scissors-grinder but enlisting in the army, had served twelve years as a driver in the Artillery. In this capacity, he had been in Egypt, and at Maida, Ciudad Rodrigo, Badajoz, Salamanca, and Toulouse.

To perpetuate the recollection of this tragedy, Mr. Anthony Buckles and other gentlemen of Mansfield erected a stone on the site of its occurrence. It had a neat appearance, having four sides worked in panels, with an ornament on the top, and standing on a pedestal. It bore the subjoined inscription:—"This stone was erected in memory of Elizabeth Shepherd, of Papplewick, who was murdered by Charles Rotherham, near this place, on the 7th of July, 1817, aged 17 years."

August 3.—A very unseemly and indecent contest took place this day (Sunday) in the General Baptist chapel, Stoney-street, between the pastor, the Rev. Robert Smith, and a portion of the members of the church for the possession of the pulpit, which ultimately led to a disruption of the church. Mr. Smith and his supporters afterwards removed to the chapel they built in Broad-street; and the Rev. Wm. Pickering became the minister at Stoney-street. 1817

August.—Messrs. Heathcoat and Boden entertaining an opinion that the inhabitants of Loughborough had extended a greater amount of sympathy to the Luddites than was consistent with a due regard to their interests, removed their machinery and manufacture to Tiverton, in Devonshire.

Mr. John Heathcoat, one of the most distinguished lace manufacturers in the country, was a native of Long Whatton, Leicestershire. At the age of 14, he was apprenticed to Mr. W. Shepherd, a maker of Derby-rib stockings, in the adjoining village of Hathern. When quite young, he married a widow, Ann Chamberlain, the sister of Mr. Samuel Cauldwell, a master frame-smith of local celebrity. It was probably in consequence of this circumstance that Mr. Heathcoat also learnt to be "a setter-up," practising in Nottingham and other places with great ability.

Cauldwell employed a journeyman named Thomas Hancock, whose wife being a native of Northamptonshire, had acquired the art of making bone or cushion lace. She had brought the instruments of her vocation to Hathern, and made cap borders, &c., for any person who chose to employ her. Mr. Heathcoat saw her at work, and conceived the idea of making a somewhat similar fabric by machinery; and after several years study, brought his design to a practical issue, at Loughborough, about the year 1806. Subsequently, in conjunction with Mr. Charles Lacey, of Nottingham, he obtained letters patent for his invention. The result was, that he rose rapidly in wealth and influence, and was for many years the colleague of Lord Palmerston in the representation of Tiverton.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Barber appointed Mayor; Mr. A. T. Fellows and Mr. C. Huish, Sheriffs.

October.—The Rev. George Wilkins, D.D., presented to the vicarage of St. Mary's, vacant by the death of the Rev. G. Hutchinson.

November 7.—Execution of Jeremiah Brandreth, *alias* John Coke, William Turner, and Isaac Ludlam, for high treason.

These men were the victims of an odious system of espionage, and the crime for which they suffered was occasioned and fomented in a great measure by an infamous man named Oliver, who was employed by the Sidmouth-Castlereagh Government, as an agent or spy in the north-midland districts. The contemptible insurrection which the three victims headed originated amongst the labour-

1817 ing population of Pentridge, South Wingfield, and Wingfield Park, in Derbyshire, a district that would be little likely to become the focus of treason and rebellion, the population being generally well disposed. How they became the instruments of villany it is difficult to state. It is true, there was to some extent dissatisfaction with the existing state of things, owing to great distress and the recent enactment of a prohibitive corn law; but not sufficient to account for overt acts of rebellion. It was however fully ascertained that they were deluded by men who were in correspondence with Oliver, and who were consequently his dupes.

Jeremiah Brandreth, better known by the name of "the Nottingham Captain," has been described as one of those original characters for whom nature has done much, and education nothing. Of his parents or early habits little is known, though it is stated he was a native of Wilford. He had been in the army, and had resided subsequently, with his wife and three children, at Sutton-in-Ashfield. His figure and countenance would have formed a fit subject for the pencil of Salvator Rosa, and would not have been unsuitable for a prominent position in a group of mountain banditti. His age was not more than twenty-six; yet he possessed an influence of command and resolution, almost irresistible to men of less firmness. His eyes were black and piercing, and his whole face indicated a character of daring intrepidity and decision of no ordinary kind. The associates of this man were less remarkable. William Turner lived in South Wingfield, and was in decent circumstances and well respected; his age was 46 years. Isaac Ludlam, whose age was 52 years, had also possessed the esteem of his neighbours: he had been the owner by inheritance of a small property, and had rented several farms; but speculating imprudently had lost everything, and in an evil hour was induced to join in Brandreth's desperate attempt.

These insurgents acted under a complete illusion. Formal statements of the numbers of the disaffected were given to them by the tools of Oliver, as well as of the quantities of arms and stores with the "provisional government," the members of which were to declare themselves the moment the people came out. Oliver himself, whose head-quarters when in Nottingham was the Blackmoor's Head inn, had been heard to say, when assembled with Brandreth and a few others in a private room at the Three Salmons public-house, that he had been round the circuit at Manchester and in Yorkshire, and was then going to London by way of Birmingham. Every person, he said, was completely ready to rise, and he could raise 70,000 in London. That the people in London would not be satisfied unless Nottingham was perfectly secured, for it was the rallying point for Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, and Leicestershire; and that if it was not secured the passage over the Trent would be perfectly stopped to the northern forces. They must proceed forward to London as soon as they could raise sufficient men against the loyalists; and that

Nottingham* was to be continually occupied by northern forces in succession. He said further, "London is now quite ripe. I am sent down to see that all is ready. They can hardly be kept down in Yorkshire and Lancashire, they are so anxious to begin!" Such were the wicked and extravagant falsehoods by which the poor men were lured into the very jaws of destruction.

Monday, the 9th of June, was fixed upon for "the general rising," in the counties of Lancaster, York, Derby, and Nottingham. Immense bodies of men, armed with guns, pikes, and other offensive weapons, were to have marched out of Lancashire and Yorkshire, over the northeastwardly side of Derbyshire, and the westwardly side of Nottinghamshire, into the town of Nottingham. They were to have forced into their service every person found on their march, and to have provided further supplies of arms, particularly guns, which they were most in want of, by taking them from private houses, and depôts of military stores. They were to have stopped in Nottingham, and to have established a provisional government, until they heard of the success of similar operations in other parts of the kingdom, and a convention was then to be held for the formation of a national constitution. Such was the design: we have now to see how miserably it failed in execution.

Between eleven and twelve at night, Turner, Ludlam, and forty or fifty associates, from Pentridge, Alfreton, and South Wingfield, armed with pikes and a few guns, assembled in Wing-

* Nottingham, in common with the country at large, was in an unhappy state at this period. The long war, begun in fear and hate of the French Revolution, resulting in peace when both the belligerents had grown weary of it, left everything, to use a common metaphor, at sixes and sevens. Widows, made widows by the war, were pining all over the land. Children, made fatherless by war, cried for bread. Disbanded soldiers, with little or no provision for their civil necessities, covered the country in all directions. The imbecility or profligacy of the Ministry led them into measures adverse to the general good, but good for certain class interests; and while war taxes were rigorously exacted after the return of peace, and while trade was depressed and languishing, a law was passed at the point of the bayonet, whose object was to keep up the price of corn to an unnatural rate. Disgust and dissatisfaction prevailed amongst the industrial community; Ministers heard on all sides rumours of the hatred and contempt with which they were regarded. They knew that the discontented in daily increasing numbers were murmuring at them, and mocking at their measures; and their remedy was to tempt and lead a few deluded men into acts of outrage and resistance of authority, and, having entrapped them in the act and fact, hang them, and plausibly pass measures to keep down the rest.

Though none of the insurrectionists, with the exception of Brandreth, "the Nottingham Captain," were natives of this neighbourhood, looking at the extent of the population, and the spread of revolutionary opinions, it was not to be expected that the inhabitants would wholly escape from the influence of the times. Several arrests of parties suspected of being concerned in treasonable practices were made, in addition to that of Mr. Gravenor Henson. In June, police officers came down specially from London (the Habeas Corpus Act being suspended), and arrested Francis Ward, a master silk stocking maker and afterwards a publican in Nottingham, and at Basford, John Holmes, William Cliff and Samuel Haynes. These men were apprehended merely on suspicion, and were conveyed in post-chaises to London, where they were kept in close confinement in Coldbath-fields Prison, and subsequently in the County Gaol at Oxford, till the 13th of the following November. They were then liberated, nothing of a criminal nature being brought against them.

The arrest of Ward, who was a respectable man, led to an act of retaliation. The *Observer* newspaper, which at that time enjoyed the reputation of being the Ministerial organ, charged him with being associated with the leaders of the Oliverian rebellion, and with being generally a man of dangerous character, and having actually entertained a design of storming the Barracks. Mr. Ward, on his liberation, brought an action against Mr. Clement, the proprietor, for damages for false imputations. Mr. Scarlett (afterwards Lord Abinger) advocated his case at the Court of King's Bench, December, 1819, and led it to a successful issue, the jury returning a verdict for £800 damages. Mr. Ward had perhaps acted indiscreetly in being the treasurer of the defence committees of the Luddites, and in mixing too freely with them at the time when the system was in its vigour; but it is clearly evident that he never merited the opprobrium heaped upon him by *The Observer*.

1817 field Park, under the command of Brandreth, who had been with them at the White Horse, Pentridge, the day before, drilling them into a knowledge of his plans. Having formed into order, they marched to a farm-house, where they expected to meet with another body of insurgents, but not doing so, they went from house to house, seizing guns wherever they could find them, and pressing the occupants to join their ranks: if the head of the house objected to go with them, his son, if he had one, was to go in his place, and if he had not a son, they took his servant man. A gun and a man at every house was what they insisted upon having, and when they had secured them, as they did in many instances, they would not trust the gun in the man's hand, but gave him a pike, and transferred the gun to one of their own party. After calling at the house of Mr. Thompson, they halted in one of his closes, expecting there to be joined by another division, but as it did not come, they despatched a part of their army, under the command of George Weightman, towards Pentridge, to see if the expected reinforcements were in sight. The main body proceeding onwards, called at several farm-houses, and a Mr. Walker having delivered up a brace of pistols, Brandreth stuck them into his belt, which was simply a leathern apron twisted round his waist. At Mrs. Hepworth's, on their arrival at the house, they knocked at the door and made a great noise, but the widow discharged her son and the two men servants from opening it. The result was, that a forcible entrance was made, and that Brandreth shot Robert Walters, one of the servant men, dead on the spot. At Mr. Fletcher's, where they next called, they were rejoined by the detachment headed by Weightman. The Butterley ironworks were the next point of attack, but Mr. G. Goodwin, a manager under Mr. Jessop, remonstrating with them very firmly, they turned away. At this point, their number, notwithstanding numerous desertions of pressed men, had increased to about one hundred, and they marched away as they came, in regular order, two and two, and each one carrying a gun or a pike. They then began to doubt whether everything was right as they had been led to suppose, and concluded to send for intelligence; they therefore seized the nearest horse they could find, and sent Geo. Weightman with it to Nottingham, for that purpose.

Codnor was the next place to which the insurgents proceeded, and here their numbers were augmented by recruits from Swanwick, Ripley, and the neighbouring places. Again forming into rank, they went on to Langley Mill. Here the first streaks of day were seen in the east, and here many of the misguided men, struck with shame or fear, dropped to the rear, or slipped away on either side; others, however, kept coming up to supply their places, and the main body was now about two hundred strong. In this force they entered Nottinghamshire at Eastwood; and halting at the Sun inn, where poor infatuated Ludlam was known, Mrs. Godber, its landlady, took him aside to say,

Isaac! this will never do for thee! Every man of you will be hung! Take my advice: let me implore you: stop where you are, and hide you in our cellar!" "No," replied Ludlam. "Many of these starving men are out because I am here! It is too late to return. I must and will go on! I would sooner be hanged, drawn, and quartered, than deceive and desert them! Let me go!" And he tore himself away from her friendly grasp; and calling the leaders up to council, urged on them the necessity of advancing at once, if they meant to keep their men together.

At this juncture Brandreth came up with Weightman, who had returned from Nottingham, and either from a wish to deceive, or from having received false information, the courier certainly revived their infatuation by reporting that the troops would not stir a foot to meet them, that Nottingham was in the hands of their friends; but if they intended them to keep it, they must hasten to their assistance, and the day was their own! Hurrahs and every other wild cry of exultation ran like a fire of joy from front to rear, and onward they again marched.

Leaving the Regenerators, as they styled themselves, for a few moments at this stage of their enterprize, it is necessary to show what was the actual state of affairs in the town towards which they were marching, and the preparations which had been made for their reception. Oliver had plied his questionable vocation here, but not with equal success. His dupes lacked the confidence necessary for taking the field; and though there was a considerable amount of disaffection amongst the starving population, yet, beyond a little tampering with the soldiery, and an indulgence in several bold designs, such as blowing up the Barracks and sacking the gunsmiths' shops, little was thought of, and still less attempted. As the night of the 9th drew over the town its sable covering, a good deal of agitation was observable and a very unusual number of people thronged the streets, but most of them were drawn together by curiosity, expecting some disturbance, though they scarcely knew what or why. The only actual breach of peace of any consequence took place on the Forest. Mr. Wm. Roper, who lived at the Stand, on the Race-course, states that he had been that evening at the house kept by Mr. Joseph Dennis, the Duke of York, York-street, and left it about half-past eleven, for the purpose of going home. He passed a great many men in crossing the Forest, and was cautioned against entering the Stand. In one place there were about a hundred, standing in line, two deep, and part of them armed with either poles or pikes. With great difficulty he managed to pass them, and get into the Stand. He then observed about the same number of armed men form into a line under the piazzas and shed of the building. Knocking at the door, they demanded the arms of which they supposed the Stand was a depôt, but Roper assuring them that there were only ^{few} ~~arms~~ in his custody, and that sooner than give them ~~down~~ out the first man's brains who entered the

1817

1817 place, the men after some parleying, withdrew, and nothing further occurred. And this was all the foundation there was for Weightman's report that the town had been taken !

So far indeed from this being the case, the authorities were fully on the alert, and thoroughly acquainted with the insurgents' plans and movements. Throughout the whole of Sunday, the 8th, until a late hour of night, and during Monday and the night following, the town magistrates sat at the Police Office without intermission, to receive communications and act accordingly. Special constables were enrolled in great numbers, and the 15th Hussars, at the Barracks, were ordered to be ready to act at a moment's notice. The county magistrates were also assembled in conclave, and the 95th Regiment of Foot, and the Holme and Newark troops of Yeomanry Cavalry, were on duty close at hand. And as if this formidable force were not sufficient, the Leicestershire Yeomanry were up in readiness to reach Nottingham on a very short notice, by forced marches.

Information of the entrance of the insurgents into the county was conveyed to the Police Office at an early hour in the morning, by Colonel Rolleston, of Watnall, who, having ridden out on horseback, and ascertained that considerable alarm prevailed at Eastwood, and that men in bodies were out with pikes, thought it his duty to gallop over to Nottingham. Securing the assistance of C. G. Mundy, Esq., one of the county justices, and of eighteen Hussars, commanded by Captain Phillips and several officers, he immediately returned, to endeavour to stop the progress of the rebel forces.

In the meantime a great change had come over the fortunes of the ill fated expedition. The cheers that burst forth on the wicked announcement that Nottingham was secured had scarcely died away, ere a deep feeling of anxiety on the face of Weightman, and rumours of the military having been sent for, again engendered distrust and doubt. Everything began to look discouraging. Rain in heavy showers cooled their ardour, people everywhere dinned in their ears the unpleasant idea that they were going with halters round their necks, and it demanded continual doses of eloquence from their leaders, and strong potations of ale at every public-house they came near, to keep them at all together.

A very few seconds more utterly dissipated whatever hope even the most sanguine of the insurgents might have cherished. Many slunk away, all looked jaded with mental and bodily fatigue, some sleepy, others stupefied with too much beer ; and it required all the sternness of Brandreth, and all his powers of command, his taunts and jeers and fleers and burning indignation, and all his old invective against tyrants, to get them to preserve any semblance whatever of marching order. John Bacon, their most violent orator, and some other leaders had disappeared^d reluctantly, at a funeral pace, they took their way on

mon, their ranks dwindling at every lane and gate they came near, till on surmounting the highest point, called Hill Top, their number had shrunk to about forty; and to their dismay, the first thing they saw, was a glimpse in the far distance of what their fears had most dreaded, the Hussars riding rapidly towards them. In vain did Brandreth try to rally his disorganised forces, and call upon them to meet the attack of the "dastardly soldiers:" dropping their pikes, pitchforks, and guns, they took to their heels, and fled most hastily in every direction but that in which the Hussars were coming. 1817

The men were actively pursued, and between Kimberley and Langley Mill, Colonel Rolleston and the soldiers with him succeeded in apprehending about thirty. Securing them in a waggon and cart, along with a quantity of pikes and guns found on the road, at six o'clock p.m. they were lodged in the County Gaol. In the course of the next two or three days, others of the deluded insurgents were arrested, and taken to Derby.

Brandreth managed to elude his pursuers longer than most of them. On the desertion of his men, he left the highway, and proceeding over hedge and ditch, secreted his gun in the fence of a field occupied by Mr. Green, of Kimberley. After a variety of narrow escapes, he was concealed at Bulwell, by an acquaintance named Sansom, until a reward of £50 was offered for his discovery, when it is understood he was betrayed by his treacherous friend, who informed Colonel Rolleston of his place of concealment. The result was, that two gamekeepers were sent to Sansom's house, under the pretence of searching for snares, and Brandreth was seized.

In the month of October following, the prisoners were arraigned at Derby, by virtue of a special commission, before Sir R. Richards, Sir R. Dallas, Sir C. Abbott, and Sir G. Holroyd, Knts. Mr. Cross and Mr. Denman appeared as their counsel. After protracted trials, the result was as follows:—Brandreth, Turner, Ludlam, George Weightman, and nineteen others (whose sentences were subsequently commuted into transportation), were left for execution as traitors. The rest were, to their great astonishment, liberated.

Weightman was sufficiently fortunate to receive a reprieve, but the others suffered the extremity of the law on the day already intimated. The scaffold was erected in Nuns-green, and was guarded by a strong detachment of the Enniskillen Dragoons, special constables, and javelinmen. While the ropes were being adjusted, the men attributed their position to Oliver, Castlereagh, and the Government. Turner and Ludlam displayed considerable emotion, but Brandreth was perfectly composed. His black beard, which he had suffered to grow in prison, looked very frightful below the white cap drawn over his face.

After hanging about half-an-hour, at one o'clock the bodies ~~down~~, and a block and two axes having been produced,

1817 and bags of sawdust emptied upon the stage, that of Brandreth was first brought forward to undergo decapitation. In extending it on the bench or block, the chin caught upon a cog, which turned up the face, and made it appear as though the eyes of the Nottingham Captain, which were wide open, were fixed upon the assembled thousands. The first blow not being sufficient for the purpose, and seeming feebler than it actually was, provoked an almost general hiss and groan. The assistant, however, with a large carving knife, instantly completed what had not been accomplished by the axe. The head fell into the basket, and the hangman seizing it by the hair, held it up to the view of the multitude. He stepped with it to the left, to the right, and to the front of the scaffold, holding it up, and exclaiming at each place, "Behold the head of the traitor, Jeremiah Brandreth!" The head and trunk were placed in a coffin close at hand, and then the bodies of Turner and Ludlam were operated upon in a similar way. The three were buried the same afternoon, in one deep grave in St. Werburgh's church-yard.

The wretch, Oliver, finding that England and Englishmen would not bear his society, emigrated with a Government grant to the Cape colony, where he assumed a different name, and died in great poverty and suffering.

November 19.—This (Wednesday) being the day on which the remains of Her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte Augusta were consigned to the tomb, there was a complete suspension of business, and a predominant mournfulness, more general and sincere than can be remembered from any similar event. With the usual exception of those belonging to the Friends, every shop was closed throughout the day, the bells were tolled, Divine service was held in all the churches and chapels, and the pulpits, &c., hung in black.

1818.

1818 *February 4.*—At a public meeting of the gentry of the town and neighbourhood, Mr. J. H. Barber in the chair, it was resolved to establish the Nottingham Savings Bank. The first directors were, Messrs. Barber, F. Wakefield, H. Smith, W. Taylor, J. Gill, J. Bakewell, B. Maddock, J. R. Scales, W. Gibson, T. Wakefield, H. Enfield, J. Mills, T. Crowther, W. Burnside, and E. Staveley.

March.—Sir William Garrow, Knt., presided at the Crown Assize Courts, and an unusual number of prisoners were condemned to death. Their names and offences were as follows :—Lucy Wain, aged 40 years, for uttering a counterfeit shilling to Ann Parnham, in Nottingham Market-place, in payment for half-a-pound of butter. Samuel Reynolds, aged 20 years, for stealing a mare at Shelford, the property of a farmer named Allwood. Wm. Goode, aged 16 years, for stealing a kerseymere scarf, from the shop of

Mr. Robert Cooke, of this town. William Cooper, aged 18 years, and James Forrest, aged 19 years, for burglariously entering the dwelling-house of William Stubbs, at Bingham. Wm. Plowright, aged 39 years, and James Feagon, aged 36 years, for stealing a sheep, belonging to L. Williamson, of Bridgford. John Oxley, aged 32 years, for breaking into the dwelling-house of James Dove, of Broadholme. Thomas Hayes, aged 28 years, for committing a burglary at Norwell. William Moore, aged 27 years, for a burglary at Upton. And William Mandeville, aged 22 years, and George Needham, aged 21 years, for burglariously entering the dwelling-house of Samuel Hough, at Burton Joyce, and stealing therefrom various articles of wearing apparel. Mandeville was also found guilty of stealing leather from the premises of Cecil Richardson, of Thurgarton; and his associate, Needham, of a robbery at Newark. Excepting these two, the whole of the convicts were subsequently reprieved.

Needham was a native of Newark, and had been in the service of a clergyman of that town, but being detected in opening a letter and abstracting money therefrom, his master obliged him to enter the Marines. Deserting, and returning to this part of the country, he abandoned himself completely to the most vicious propensities, and committed numerous robberies. Mandeville was a native of Carlton-le-Moor, and had been in agricultural service until about the time of Needham's return, when they became companions in vice, and extended the sphere of their depredations to Nottingham and various parts of the county.

They were hanged on the 3rd of April. Mandeville appeared sincerely contrite, but his companion was as hardened and insensible as can well be conceived.

April 22.—Opening of Salem chapel, Barker-gate. This erection cost about £2,000. It was built through the instrumentality of Mr. William Butcher, a retired tradesman of this town, who preached without pecuniary reward, until incapacitated by advanced age. Subsequently, Mr. James Orange was ordained to the office of minister, but the attendants at the place, who were Independents, becoming dissatisfied with him, and a debt of £900 pressing down their energies, the cause was abandoned. After being in the occupation of a body now extinct, known as Arminian Methodists, the place was sold in 1839, for the sum of £824, to Messrs. Jonathan Hine and James Wallis. These gentlemen effected considerable improvements in the interior, and transferred the use of the place to a section of Baptists styling themselves "New Testament Disciples," in whose possession it still remains.

May.—From the 12th to the end of the month, the town was enlivened by the extraordinary circumstance of three candidates in the Whig interest canvassing the town simultaneously, in anticipation of a general election. Mr. Denman was the first in the field, and his committee established their head-quarters at Mr. Crane's, the Feathers tavern, under the Exchange. Mr. Birch

1818 came next, and his supporters organized a committee at the Lion hotel. Lastly, came Lord Ranccliffe, the sitting member, and his committee met at the Black Boy inn. Mr. Smith had announced his resignation, but no candidate in the opposite interest had yet come forward. It appearing, however, that the past exertions of Mr. Birch and the noble Lord gave them the first claim to the consideration of their party, Mr. Denman, though he had received a very flattering reception, thought it best to withdraw.

June 17.—Nomination of candidates at the Exchange Hall. J. Fellows, Esq., advanced the claims of Lord Ranccliffe, seconded by Wm. Howitt, Esq., of Mansfield. Mr. Alderman Allen and T. C. Smith, Esq., proposed Joseph Birch, Esq. The only Tory candidate, Thomas Asaheton Smith, Esq., was nominated by Dr. Storer and Francis Hardwick, Esq., neither of whom, however, could obtain a hearing. The show of hands was declared in favour of the Whigs, and a poll was immediately proceeded with, in a booth in the Market-place. The numbers at the close of the tenth day's polling were as follows:—Mr. Birch 2228, Lord Ranccliffe 1863, Mr. Smith 1840; majority for Lord Ranccliffe, 23.

This contest was one of the most exciting on record, and both sides exerted themselves to the utmost possible extent. It was attended by a great amount of drunkenness and disorder, breaking of windows, blue and yellow fights in the streets, intimidation, and other party animosities. At the close, Lord Ranccliffe, Mr. Birch, and Mr. Denman addressed the electors from a window, and the public chairing immediately followed. About three hundred of the Whig electors afterwards dined together in the Exchange Hall. The Mayor presided, and the successful candidates, and Mr. R. Hopper, Mr. Alderman Barber, Mr. Hurst, and Mr. Wilcockson were the principal speakers.

Whilst these signs of rejoicing were being indulged in by one party, the leaders of the other resolved to petition Parliament, as soon as the session might open, for a scrutiny. In the meantime, so confidently did they anticipate a favourable issue, they put on all the outward manifestations of victory, and the town presented the remarkable spectacle of both blue and yellow fetes in celebration of the same event. The Tory party had a very expensive ball at the Assembly Rooms, and a grand public dinner at the Castle, besides numerous smaller festivities; and the yellows, determining to be equally spirited, got up an elegant ball at the Exchange, and joined in various public dinners and tea parties.

The petition, signed by John Elliott and Lewis Allsop, Esqs., was duly presented, and a committee of the House appointed to inquire into its merits. Sir T. G. Estcourt was the chairman. Mr. Sergeant Bosanquet and Mr. Cross were counsel for the sitting member, and Messrs. Warren, Harrison, and Courthorpe, for the petitioners. In March, 1819, when the committee met, they came to a resolution that the petition was informal, and declared Lord Ranccliffe duly elected.

The petition is understood to have been the joint production of no less than twenty-two attorneys, and would doubtless have been much more carefully worded had there been only two or three. 1818

Nothing could exceed the triumph with which the decision was hailed by Lord Ranccliffe's supporters. A grand celebration of it took place on the 31st of the same month. His Lordship set out from Bunney at the head of a numerous body of his tenantry on horseback, and was met at the foot of Wilford hills by a very large procession of gentlemen on horseback and pedestrians, with numerous and brilliant flags, colours, and bands of music. Ascending Hollow-stone, his Lordship was accompanied along the Pavements and Bridlesmith-gate to the Market-place, where he addressed the multitude from a window of the Black Boy inn. Adjourning to the Exchange, about five hundred sat down to dinner. Mr. T. Wakefield was in the chair, and the orators were, in addition to the chairman and Lord Ranccliffe, the Mayor, Mr. Hopper, Mr. Hurst, Mr. T. Bailey, and Mr. J. Perry.

June 23.—County election at the Shire Hall. The Earl of Surrey and I. Wright, Esq., nominated Lord William Bentinck; and the Hon. Mr. Sutton and Colonel Need proposed Admiral Frank Frank. The High Sheriff, H. Walker, Esq., declared them duly elected.

August 4.—A new stack of hay in the Meadows, belonging to Mr. Richard Hooton, ignited spontaneously, and the flames communicating to others standing near, destroyed above ninety tons of hay. The loss was estimated at £500.

September 7.—A grand cricket match was commenced this day between eleven of All England and twenty-two of Nottingham. England, first innings, 104; second, 87: Nottingham, first innings, 135, second, 57. Nottingham thus won by fourteen wickets.

September 28.—A calamity of the most appalling description occurred at the wharf belonging to the Nottingham Boat Company (adjoining Carrington-street bridge, now occupied by the wharf of D. Brown and Co.) A boat had arrived that morning from Gainsborough, having amongst a general cargo twenty-one barrels of gunpowder, each containing about 100lb., which was on its passage for use in the Derbyshire mines. Hezekiah Riley, the captain, and his two men, Joseph Musson and Benjamin Wheatley, proceeded to unship the powder on the south side of the building. Riley, who survived the explosion, at the Coroners' inquest, thus stated this part of the transaction:—"The end of one of the barrels was out, and had been matted up; and as I was carrying it from the boat into the warehouse the peg fastening broke, and a considerable quantity of powder, as much as three or four pounds, fell upon the wharf side, between the boat and the warehouse-door. I at once put back into the barrel as much of it as I could collect, leaving perhaps a couple of ounces or so amongst the dirt." Joseph Musson (a native of Edingley, but

1818 living with his wife in the Meadow-plats in this town) went to a boat in which were three men, and addressing one of them, said, "You've got a fire in your boat, I want a live coke;" adding, "Lads, I'm going to have a flush!" Musson accordingly took a live coke, and carried it a great part of the way between two sticks, but letting it fall, he picked it up with his fingers, and chucking it repeatedly from one hand to the other, finally dropped it on the powder Riley had been unable to gather up. The result was awful. The "flush" being doubtless connected with the barrels by a small train, the whole exploded, and Musson with nine others were in a moment utterly destroyed.

The unthinking cause of this catastrophe was blown across the canal into the Meadows, and over the Tinker's Leen, on the opposite bank of which it appeared that his body first touched the ground. Benjamin Wheatley, aged 28 years, of Stoke Bardolph, a boatman; George Hayea, of Trowell, labourer to the Company, aged 25 years, and Job Barnes, labourer, aged 36 years, were found dead in Riley's vessel, their bodies being dreadfully disfigured. John Howell, aged 11 years, son of one of the Company's book-keepers, who resided at the house in the yard, was fishing in the canal, and his body was so disfigured that it could only be identified by the remains of the clothes. John Seales, aged 30 years; William Norman, aged 60 years; and William Stevenson, aged 25 years, were engaged in moving a cart, about fifty yards off. The two former were killed instantaneously, and the latter manifesting signs of life, was conveyed to the General Hospital, but died about six o'clock in the evening. A lad aged 15 years, named William Parker, the son of a poor man living at Carlton, had come to Nottingham on Monday, to hire himself to go in Riley's boat, and was standing within a few yards of it when the catastrophe took place. The blast took him across the canal and through a hedge into the Meadows, and there his corpse was found terribly mutilated. Thomas Baker, aged 42 years, was standing near his waggon in the yard, when the building fell and crushed him and the shaft-horse to death. Several other parties had very narrow escapes.

The loss of property, though secondary to that of life, was immense. The explosion was heard at Ratcliffe, Bingham, Loughborough, Alfreton, Loscoe, and even at Newark; and at Castle Donington it was considered by many to be a sudden clap of thunder. A gentleman who was crossing the Meadows at the time of the explosion, subsequently expressed the amazement that struck his mind, when, looking that way, he saw the whole building lifted up in the air, and then suddenly divide into innumerable fragments; the bricks, beams, bales, hogheads, &c., flying to all points of the compass. A liberal public subscription was immediately raised for the relief of the families of the unfortunate sufferers.

September 29.—Mr. Ald. Isaac Woolley appointed Mayor; Mr. N. Barnsdall and Mr. John Theaker, Sheriffs.

November 22.—The General Baptist chapel in Broad-street was opened for Divine worship by the Rev. T. Stevenson, of Loughborough, and the Rev. J. Jarrom, of Wisbeach. The building, &c., cost £1,800. Mr. Smith continued pastor of the church worshipping therein until his death in 1828. 1818

December 23.—The Town Hall was crowded with a public meeting, "to consider the propriety of petitioning the House of Commons to repeal the Corn Act passed in the late Parliament." The Mayor presided, and the speakers were Mr. Alderman Wilson and Mr. T. Wakefield. The proceedings were unanimous.

During the latter part of this, and a great portion of the succeeding year, the framework-knitting population suffered very severe privation, arising from the absence of employment. To mitigate the distress, a public subscription was raised in December and January, amounting to above £3,000. The committee gave relief to nearly 3,500 families, by periodically distributing tickets, of the value of 4d. each, exchangeable for meat, bread, flour, Scotch barley, potatoes, or coal.

1819.

January.—The Rev. Robert Wood, D.D., vicar of Cropwell Bishop, and chaplain of the County Gaol, elected Head Master of Nottingham Free Grammar School. 1819

April 13.—Coal gas first used in Nottingham to illuminate the streets. (The shop of Mr. Tatham, a brassfounder, was lighted five years previously by an apparatus that made gas upon his own premises.) The gasometer and works had been erected in Butchers'-close, as the site was then designated, on the premises formerly occupied as a worsted mill, &c., by Mr. John Hawksley. Only ten lamps were lit the first few days, viz., one at the top of Drury-hill, another at the summit of Hollow-stone, five in Bridle-smith-gate, and three in front of the Exchange. Attracted by the novelty of the sight, thousands came out to indulge their curiosity, and numbers of the least informed of them scarcely dared to venture upon the pavement near the pipes, for fear of an explosion, or were lost in amazement at beholding flame exist without a wick.

July.—Two melancholy accidents on the Trent. On Sunday, the 4th, Mr. John Good, a shoemaker, residing in Hounds-gate, had been at Ruddington feast, with a large party of pleasure seekers, and on their return drank rather freely at Mr. Carver's, near the Wilford Ferry. Having obtained a ticket to free fifteen over the river, they recommenced their homeward journey about half-past ten o'clock, and when in the middle of the stream, the ferryman began to collect the halfpennies. The holder of the ticket, presenting a wrong bit of paper, an altercation ensued.

- 1819 Some of the men then began to pull the chain, and the boatman, in order to defeat their object, put the hook of the small chain which secures the boat at each landing-place, into one of the links of the ferry-chain. The sudden jerk overbalanced Good, who was standing at the edge of the boat, and falling backwards, he disappeared, nor could his companions rescue him. His body was recovered on the following Thursday, between Colwick and Holme Pierrepont. A wife and seven children were left to mourn his loss.

The other catastrophe was of a still more tragical nature. On the 7th, a party of young men and women went to spend the afternoon by taking tea and enjoying themselves at one of the tea-houses then so much resorted to on the river side. Stopping at Mr. Bailey's, the first house on the Lenton side, James Lowe, of Mount East-street, with a companion named Mellors and three young women, embarked in one of Bailey's small pleasure-boats, and ascended the stream nearly as far as Clifton. As they were coming down again, they were met by Lowe's wife and Mellors's sister, who found fault with them for being so long on the water without giving them an opportunity of joining them. To appease them, the boat was brought to the side, and they were asked to get in, which they did; but, as may readily be conceived, seven persons in one small boat rendered it almost unmanageable. After rowing about some time, they endeavoured to land on the southern bank, near the osier-holt, not far from Mr. Bailey's house, and ran the bow of the vessel against the side. The shock was more violent than they had anticipated, and the females being alarmed, jumped up, and rushing to the side, overturned the boat. Lowe's mother and others of the party, who stood on the opposite bank, witnessed the accident, and the shrieks of the sufferers and the cries of their friends were full of acutest agony. Lowe, who was a good swimmer, managed to struggle to the shore, along with one of the women, who clasped him tightly round the neck. Mellors, who could not swim, was also firmly grasped by one of the females, and would certainly have been drowned, had it not been for the presence of mind of Mr. John Ward, who happened to be fishing near the spot, and having a strong barbel-rod, held it out, so that Mellors was able to seize it, and was, along with the female, fairly landed. A third female managed to grasp a projecting willow, and was extricated; but the other two, Lowe's wife and Mellors's sister, were drowned.

August.—Bridlesmith-gate underwent a great improvement. The foot-paths were formed of flagstones instead of boulders, as theretofore, the horse-road newly paved, and by the voluntary consent of the tradesmen and owners of property, the whole of the numerous projecting signs, door-steps, &c., were removed. These alterations, with the newly introduced gas-lights, gave the street quite a new appearance. It being the most fashionable and best business street in the town, an attempt was also

change its name to Bond-street (the name of what was then one of the most fashionable streets in London), but the attempt was unsuccessful. 1819

August 3.—Opening of the Vagrant Office, in Chandlers-lane. This useful institution was founded by a number of benevolent gentlemen, for the relief of vagrants and the suppression of mendicity, but was subsequently thrown for support upon the poor's rate. From the date of its institution to its close, December 1st, 1836, 28,404 persons were relieved within its doors, with food or money, or both, of whom 25,788 were gratuitously lodged.

September 27.—One of the most numerous public meetings ever held in Nottingham took place in the Market-place (by adjournment from the Guildhall), to pronounce an opinion on the "Manchester massacre." The Mayor presided, and the speakers were Mr. T. Wakefield, Mr. J. Fellows, Mr. J. Perry, Lord Raneliffe (who had come from Paris specially to be present), Mr. T. Latham, Mr. Denison, and Mr. Joseph Carr. An address to the Prince Regent was unanimously adopted, in which the massacre was termed a "flagrant outrage upon the liberty and persons of Englishmen;" and the document further stated, "We call God and our country to witness our determination that the freedom of England shall never be outraged with impunity in our persons."

The massacre which provoked this indignant remonstrance took place on the 16th of August. A meeting was held in St. Peter's Field, consisting of about 40,000 men, women, and children, under the leadership of Mr. Hunt, to petition for Parliamentary Reform. The people were entirely without arms, and perfectly peaceable. Suddenly, with the concurrence of the stipendiary magistracy, who were determined that the people should be made to disperse, the Yeomanry Cavalry rode amongst them, and drawing their swords, commenced an indiscriminate slaughter! The killed and wounded were upwards of four hundred. The coroner's jury returned a verdict of "accidental death," and the Yeomanry were never punished for their conduct, further than in the remorse of their own consciences.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Wm. Soars appointed Mayor; Mr. Huish and Mr. Deverill, Sheriffs.

November 10.—Death of Mr. Henry Bucknall, confectioner, Chandlers-lane, aged 49 years. He was excessively corpulent, weighing more than twenty-five stones, and died very suddenly, immediately after eating a hearty breakfast. In Lord Howe's memorable engagement, on the 1st of June, 1794, he had served as a Marine on board the *Brunswick*. His interment, at St. Mary's New Burial-ground, on the 14th, drew together a large concourse of spectators. The coffin was of enormous size, and nearly equalled the body in weight. It was of excellent oak, was six feet eight inches in length, and two feet eleven inches across

1819 the breast, the bottom was $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick, the sides $1\frac{1}{2}$, and the lid 1. The whole, including the body, considerably exceeded five hundredweight.

December.—The authorities, alarmed by false intelligence, and evidently apprehensive of a popular outbreak, adopted the most extraordinary precautions. Some idea of their nature and extent may be gathered from the following circumstances. On the 10th, Bromley House was taken possession of by four companies of the 52nd Regiment of Foot, who had marched into the town from the south for that purpose; and on the 13th, two other companies joined them. On the 14th, several waggon loads of ammunition and stores were lodged in the same building. During the night of the 10th, the soldiers, both there and at the Barracks, were under orders to hold themselves in readiness to act at a moment's notice; and on the following day, the Holme and Wadnall troops of Yeomanry arrived in the town, to add to the general surprise. Nothing, however, transpired to at all justify these alarming preparations.

December 27.—The Duke of Newcastle, the Duke of Portland, Earl Manvers, Lord Middleton, Sir J. B. Warren, Admiral Sotherton, M.P. (late Frank Frank), and thirty or forty of the county magistrates, met at the Shire Hall, and resolved unanimously, "That in the present emergency, it is the duty of every loyal subject to testify his determination strenuously to maintain the inviolability of our established Constitution, and to guard the people against the baneful delusions of designing persons, calling themselves Radical Reformers, whose aim is equally subversive of civil and religious liberty." This, and other resolutions, calling upon the magistrates "to enforce with promptitude and energy, the several acts of Parliament passed in the present session, for the prevention of meetings and practices dangerous to the public peace," were advertised in the newspapers.

Few years are more distinctly remembered by the working classes than this. It was one of deep and widely diffused distress. In the winter and spring, the demand for our manufactures was very inactive, and as the summer advanced it became almost stagnant. The outward manifestations of suffering, amongst the framework knitters especially, assumed various forms and excited general commiseration. Many solicited contributions from door to door, crowds besieged the overseers' offices, and some, it is believed, sank altogether beneath the pressure of their calamities. In August, the two-needle hands paraded the streets in procession almost every day. On the 13th, upwards of 600 were thus assembled together, and on the 16th, a gentleman who had the curiosity to count them as they marched by, numbered 5057 men. As the procession passed through the chief streets on the 19th, it attracted more than usual attention from the circumstance of a great number of women marching at its head. In the course of the same week, the unemployed published an appeal to the Lord

Lieutenant and the noblemen and gentry of the county, in which they stated, amongst other things, "From the various and low prices given by our employers, we have not, after working from sixteen to eighteen hours per day, been able to earn more than from four to seven shillings per week, to maintain our wives and families upon, to pay taxes, house-rent, &c., which has driven us to the necessity of applying for parochial aid, which after all has not in many instances left us sufficient to supply the calls of nature, even with the most parsimonious economy; and though we have substituted meal and water, or potatoes and salt, for that more wholesome food an Englishman's table used to abound with, we have repeatedly retired, after a hard day's labour, and been under the necessity of putting our children supperless to bed, to stifle the cries of hunger: nor think that we would give this picture too high a colouring, when we can most solemnly declare, that for the last eighteen months we have scarcely known what it is to be free from the pangs of hunger." Subsequently, bodies of men, with their wives and children, perambulated the streets, carrying boards, on which were inscribed, "Pity our distresses!" "We ask for bread!" "Pity our children!" Appeals like these naturally excited attention, and of the numerous projects devised to meet them, and to permanently improve the men's condition, there are several to which reference must be made.

One of these remedial measures was an attempt to procure the interference of the Legislature. A petition was presented to the House of Commons, and in answer to it, a Committee was appointed to institute an inquiry. Witnesses were examined, and the Committee reported against the manufacture of "cut-ups." A bill, founded on the report of the Committee, was soon after introduced, and passed the Commons, but was thrown out by the House of Lords, after its second reading, on the motion for going into committee.

It was the opinion of others, shared in by the workmen themselves, that a statement of prices for each description of work, liberally devised and stringently carried out, would be an efficient means of permanently benefiting the trade. Accordingly, after much consultation, the schedule known as "the 1819 statement," was prepared for adoption. The hosiers, however, expressed a grave doubt whether they should be able to realize the prices demanded, and at first held out against them. To compel them, the men proceeded to the most energetic measures. Early in September, they resolved to bring in their frames. These were drawn to the warehouses in borrowed waggons and carts, to which long ropes were attached, the workmen themselves pulling them along. Great numbers, many of them from the country, were thus left in the streets, at the hosiers' doors. The latter, finding it necessary to do something, held a three counties meeting of their own body, on the 13th, at the Exchange Hall. Mr. Win. Lowe in the chair, and after considerable discussion, came to the resolution, "That to

1819: long as the stocking makers do not manufacture for themselves ; as long as parish officers do not find it necessary to turn hosiers, but employ the surplus labour *out* of the trade ; as long as no irregular mode shall be made use of to reduce the rate of wages ; so long will this meeting adhere to the prices exhibited in the statement, which the hosiers present cheerfully accede to." But excellent as this was, it had not, nor could it be expected to have, any immediate effect in mitigating distress occasioned by an absolute want of demand in the market.

Another proposition emanated from the Duke of Newcastle, to whom had been forwarded a copy of the framework knitters' appeal. His Grace came over to Nottingham, and had interviews with the magistrates, the workmen's committee, and several of the hosiers. He recommended that the surplus hands should emigrate to the Cape Colony, and promised effectual assistance for the purpose. A subscription list was at once opened, to which his Grace contributed £500, the Duke of Portland £500, Earl Manvers £500, the Dowager Duchess of Newcastle £150, the Earl of Surrey £100, Viscount Galway £100, the Hon. and Rev. J. Lumley Sayville £100, the Hon. J. Simpson £100, Admiral Sotherton £100, H. G. Knight, Esq., £100, and others, smaller amounts. The whole amounted to nearly four thousand pounds, and with the assistance of Government, about three hundred families were removed to the Cape.

But the plan which gave the most sensible and immediate relief was the institution of large public subscriptions to provide out-door employment for the suffering operatives. For this noble purpose, in town and county, between six and seven thousand pounds were soon raised. From November till the following spring, great numbers were set to labourers' work. Some of them cleared out the Tinker's Leen ; others cleared and levelled a piece of land on the Forest, near to the Alfreton-road, that it might be planted with potatoes ; numbers toiled on the St. Ann's and other roads ; and the remainder were engaged in levelling Mapperley Plains, and inclosing them partially with a rude stone wall, a small portion of which still remains.

1820.

1820 *January*.—A protracted frost was succeeded by a thaw, accompanied by a south-west wind. An inundation of the Meadows was the consequence, and the water rose so high on the east side of the London-road as to flow into the houses of Sneinton Hermitage, which had not been so visited since 1795.

February 5.—Died, at his house on the Low-pavement, in the 62nd year of his age, Francis Wakefield, Esq., a gentleman of the most active, disinterested, and unostentatious benevolence. The remains of this truly worthy townsman were interred in St. Peter's

church, on the 11th. The Rev. R. W. Almond read the burial service, and about a hundred of the most respectable gentlemen, of all sects and parties, attended.

February 7.—The accession of George IV. to the throne was publicly celebrated in the Market-place. The Mayor and Corporation, in deep mourning for the late Monarch, drank the new Sovereign's health out of their gold cup, and then passed it to the officers of the 9th Lancers. Two six-pounders were brought from the Barracks by a detachment of the Royal Artillery, and at one o'clock, a Royal salute of 21 guns was fired, accompanied by a *feu de joie* of pistols from two troops of Lancers on horseback.

February 16.—This (Wednesday) being the day of the funeral of the late King, the shops were closed and there was a general suspension of business. There was Divine service at the churches and principal chapels.

March.—Election of Members to represent the town in Parliament, consequent on the death of George III. Lord Ranelagh, not wishing to incur further expense, declined the honour of coming forward, and Mr. Denman consented to succeed him. The nomination took place on the 6th. Joseph Birch, Esq., was nominated by Mr. Alderman Allen and Mr. T. Wakefield; Thos. Assheton Smith, Esq., by Mr. F. Hardwick and Mr. Wm. Lowe; Lancelot Rolleston, Esq., of Watnall, by Mr. Percy and Mr. John Hadden; and Thomas Denman, Esq., by Lord Ranelagh and Mr. A. T. Fellows. The show of hands was greatly in favour of the Whig candidates, and a poll was immediately opened. At the close, on the twelfth day, the numbers were, Birch 1891, Denman 1891, Smith 1858, Rolleston 1858; majority in favour of Birch and Denman, 33. The chairing took place on the morning of Monday, the 20th.

No sooner was the contest over, than the triumphant candidates were threatened with a petition against their return, and several meetings of the leaders of the Blues were held for the purpose of preparing a case. On the 14th of April, a very full meeting took place, the result of which was a resolution not to proceed with the matter further; and Mr. Denman happening to be in Nottingham, Mr. T. A. Smith left the room, and waiting upon him at his inn, communicated the decision in very courteous terms.

It was of course thought that nothing further would occur to prolong the injurious excitement of the period; but it was not so. Some of the Blues were still dissatisfied, and convening a very select meeting, with Dr. Manson in the chair, resolved to proceed. Accordingly, on the last day appointed by the House for receiving election petitions, the petition of Caractacus D'Aubigney Shilton, attorney, of Sueinton, Thomas Brocksopp, hosier, Joseph Pocklington, banker, and Thomas Hind, draper, of London, against the return at the late election, was delivered in. The document was of great length, and complained principally of the conduct of

1820 the sheriffs, in not commencing the election on what the petitioners considered a proper day. The Committee of the House met on the 21st of June, G. C. Western, Esq., in the chair, and on the following day came the decision that "Mr. Birch and Mr. Denman were duly elected," and that the petition was "frivolous and vexatious;" thus involving the petitioners in the whole expense of the inquiry. It was resolved to celebrate the triumph by a great public dinner at the Exchange Hall. Owing to Mr. Denman being engaged in preparing for the defence of Queen Caroline at her approaching trial, it did not take place until the 4th of August, when more than 400 electors sat down. The room was decorated with unusual elegance. Mr. Denman presided, and amongst the imposing array of speakers who took part in the proceedings of the evening were Lord Holland, Mr. Birch, Mr. H. Enfield, Sir Robert Flench, Mr. Charles March Phillips, Mr. J. H. Barber, Mr. R. Hooper, Mr. T. Wakefield, and Mr. Strutt, of Derby.

March 16. County election. Lord William Bentinck and Admiral Sir John Boscawen re-elected without opposition.

March 19. Trial and conviction of Thomas Wilcox, for highway robbery. Mr. Thomas Pearson, of Chilwell, the prosecutor, deposed that on the 14th of January, between six and seven in the evening, he was proceeding in a gig along with Samuel Meads, from Nottingham towards Chilwell, when, as they passed the Barracks-lane going down the Sandhills towards Lenton, they saw three men, and about ten yards further, four more. When they had passed the three, the four crossed the road and stopped the mare and gig. He called out, "Let the mare alone—what are you about?" and then the men demanded his money, and one of them, pulling out a pistol, threatened to blow his brains out. Wilcox, he was quite sure, was one of them. He had seen him before, scores and scores of times, and was satisfied as to his identity. They dragged him forcibly out of the gig, and robbed him of £10 in notes, and a silver watch. On this, and the corroborative evidence of Meads, prisoner was adjudged to be guilty, and received sentence of death.

March the 29th was the day of execution. On the right of the criminal sat the Rev. Mr. Bryan, and on the left, a brother, to whom he bore a most striking resemblance. He was remarkably firm, and joined in singing a hymn with great apparent fervour, and responded audibly to a prayer by the Rev. Mr. Brownhill. He then rose from his knees and called heaven and earth to witness that he was innocent of the crime for which he was about to suffer. The corpse was buried at Sawley.

There was an impression on the minds of many, that Wilcox was not guilty of the particular offence for which he suffered, and that the prosecutor, though a man of unimpeachable integrity, was mistaken in his identity. A number of respectable witnesses from Sawley, his place of residence, appeared in the court at the

1820

trial, and swore most positively to having seen him in Sawley as usual at various times on the very evening of the robbery. On the other hand, he was sworn to not having been seen into Nottingham. But the most grave suspicion of his innocence arose from the fact that a prisoner subsequently convicted of a robbery, in confessing his participation in the attack upon Mr. Pearson, and disclosing the names of his associates, declared solemnly that T. Wilder was not present. It must not, however, be inferred that Wilder was a man of good character. He was known as a Sawley Tyn, and had been several times in prison; and was once convicted of stealing a hat from a shop on the Liongrove. He was 32 years of age, and left a wife and six children. *Nottingham Mercury*, 27. To the great astonishment of the Mayor and Aldermen, who met this day, as usual for the annual appointment of overseers, the Police Office was found to be in the possession of no less than thirteen healthy magistrates, who had met by virtue of Mr. Coke's Act, for the same purpose. Their names were J. Bettison, W. Charlton, J. Coke, T. W. Edge, W. A. Elliott, J. Elliott, General Hall, Rev. Dr. Holcombe, T. Mackay, J. Webb, R. Padley, Rev. Dr. Whyde, and E. Rolleston, Esq. All the town magistrates had been in the habit of selecting the overseers in equal numbers from each political party; but on this occasion they were outvoted, and none but Tories were appointed. The consequence was that the new overseers went to the Workhouse the next day, and gave the governor, Mr. Vason, an active partizan in the Whig interest, notice to quit. The collectors and clerks, being of the same political sentiments, also received discharges. No charge of incapacity or of inattention to duty was alleged; their offence was understood to be their political principles. They had been very active at the late election, and probably went to greater lengths in their support of Messrs. Barch and Denton than could be justified with their position as public servants, and thus exasperated the Blue party against them. Mr. Vason being held in great esteem, was soon after elected governor of the Down Gaol; Mrs. Philip Bailey having voluntarily resigned the situation for that purpose. Mr. Bailey was the father of the late Mr. Thomas Bailey, of Bedford, and was held in very high estimation. During the twenty years in which he fulfilled the duties of a gaoler, and honourably vigilant were his habits that there was not a single instance of a prisoner effecting his escape. His successor in office, Mr. George Vason, held this appointment till called to surrender it by death July 22nd, 1836. The career of this man was eventful and extraordinary. He was a native of North Mankham, in this county, and served an apprenticeship to a builder. When out of his time, he removed to Nottingham, and became a member of the Baptist church in Park Street. In 1798, he was selected, as an artisan, to accompany the missionaries the London Society first sent out in the ship

- 1821) *Duff*, commanded by Captain Wilson, to introduce Christianity amongst the newly discovered islanders of the Southern Seas. He was then 24 years of age, and the expedition sailed on the 10th of August. He was landed with eight others at Tongataboo, one of the Friendly Isles, an island about 21 miles in extent from east to west, and about 13 from north to south, about 480 leagues west of Tahiti, and containing a population of nine or ten thousand. The missionaries were hospitably received by the natives, but met with great animosity from two British sailors they found on the island, named Ambler and Morgan. Subsequently, through the evil influence of these men over the natives, three of the missionaries were murdered, and the others, after witnessing Vason's spiritual declension and apostacy, saved their lives by flight, and were delivered by a remarkable providence: the *Betsy*, a privateer, with a Spanish prize, happened to touch at the island, and received them on board.

Vason himself met with a very narrow escape from death, of which we have a narrative in his own words:—"One day," he states, "Ambler and Morgan entered my habitation, armed, with an evident design of revenging themselves by murdering me. I expected that instant to be speared. But providentially there was a chief with me, who they knew had a great regard for me: they departed therefore without molesting me. I learned whither they had retired, and immediately went to the vessel, (the *Duff*, on her return from Tahiti); and Mr. Faulkner, the third officer, myself, and some others proceeded directly, well armed, to their retreat. We had searched several spots without success, till night came on. At length I advanced from the field by myself, before the rest, up a narrow lane: and meeting some of the natives, I inquired of them if they had seen Ambler. They replied by seizing me, and held me immovable by my arms behind. I could easily have shot one of them with a pistol, which I held ready loaded in my hand; but knowing that my own death would have instantly followed, I forbore to touch the trigger. They dragged me forward, along the lane, and threw me on my back. Whilst two or three held me, another raised his club to strike me on the head. I despaired of escape, and expected the suspended club would finish my life. But, that instant, the moon emerged from under a cloud, and shining full in my face, as I lay upon my back, discovered who I was. The natives immediately dropped their clubs, awed by reverence for the chief with whom I resided, as they well knew I was a great favourite with him. Just then Mr. Faulkner and his party, alarmed by my outcries, came up and fired upon my assailants, but missed them. They fled, but followed us afterwards for some time, as we retired to the boat. I did not enter the boat with them, but returned to my chief. I was surprised, when I arrived at his habitation, to find the doors of the inclosure secured, and was obliged to stay some time in the public road. At length, roused by fear of pursuers, I succeeded in forcing the entrance. &c.

was more alarmed, when I entered, to perceive all the natives under arms. As I approached, they pointed their spears at me. I inquired for the old chief: they sent for him, but told me in the meantime that they were informed by Ambler and Morgan, that it was our intention to kill him, and seize the island. These men had succeeded in exciting the indignation of the natives against us by this malignant calumny. They took every step to lessen us in their esteem, and to exalt themselves. They gave it out that they were persons of the greatest consequence; that one was the king's son, the other a duke, or great chief; that we were only of the lower class, and servants to them in their own country."

At length, the two men modified their conduct, and affected a reconciliation, but offending the natives, were both put to death.

Vason, being located at some distance from his brethren, and becoming a bosom friend of one of the leading chiefs, was exposed to powerful temptations. The wholesome restraints of Christianity slipped from him almost imperceptibly, and ultimately he wholly abandoned himself to the manners and customs of the natives, conducting himself in all respects as one of them. He adopted their mode of dress, was tattooed, married one of the chief's daughters, and acquired a small landed estate, employing labourers to cultivate it with cocoa nut and plantain trees, pines, and other tropical productions. Subsequently, as polygamy was thought honourable, he took a second wife, acquired more land, and rose to considerable importance; but a war breaking out, a series of disastrous defeats, in one of which he was very near losing his life, stripped him of all his possessions, and placed him in continual fear of assassination. Fortunately, in the summer of 1801, at the moment when a plot had been organized to put him to death, he managed to escape. The attendant circumstances, it will be seen, were highly exciting.

Vason, in pursuance of the plot against him, had been sent on an expedition to a neighbouring island. To his astonishment and joy, the *Royal Admiral*, an East Indiaman, happened to have touched there at the time of his arrival, and he determined, if possible, to return to civilized society. The great obstacle, he knew, was the vigilance of the natives, who would do all they could to reserve him for their own vengeance. "Various plans," said Vason to his biographer, "rushed into my mind: sometimes I thought of taking a small canoe, and making my escape to the ship. But well knowing that if met by any of the natives I should be killed, I waited till morning, hoping to prevail on the chief who had brought me to Vavou, to go to the ship to trade. I told him, I doubted not but I could get him some iron tools, if he would go immediately. Sensible that death would be my inevitable lot if I did not succeed, I used every possible argument, and at length a few of the natives consented. I had, however, the unhappiness to see the ship under weigh, and was terribly afraid she would sail without me. But as the wind blew only a slight

1820 breeze, the ship was some time in getting round; and the canoe could go faster than she was then able to do. I persuaded them to let me steer; and we soon came up with her, when the natives refused to let me be any longer at the helm, for fear I should run the canoe against the ship. When we came near, I called out, 'How do you do, countrymen?' But the sailors only laughed at me, as they supposed, from my dress, that I was a native who had picked up some European phrases.

"The ship was now just beginning to sail; and the only opportunity of getting out of the hands of these savages was likely to be lost for ever. What should I do? I attempted to call out who I was, but I had so long been unaccustomed to my native tongue, that I perpetually mixed the language of these islands with it; which rendered all I said so unintelligible, as to increase the ridicule and unbelief of the sailors. I jumped overboard, knowing I could easily swim to the ship; when a chief who was near, said, 'get into my canoe, I will take you to the ship.' But no sooner had I entered it, than he turned with me toward the shore. My situation then was almost desperate. I cried out as loudly as I could, partly in the native and partly in the English tongue; but the ship's company paid no attention. What could I do? I lifted up my eyes to heaven in despair! Providence at length pitied my distress. 'The Lord will not cast off for ever; for the spirits would fail before him.' The good captain coming on deck, my anxiety and acclamations caught his attention; he said that must certainly be a European; and immediately ordered out a boat for me, manned with eight persons. I saw the boat coming; but the natives rowed away from it, tantalizing me, and jeering,—'such a chief,' said they, 'wants to see you.' You must visit Loogolala's brother before you leave us.' At length a young man at the head of the boat beckoned to me to plunge in. I watched my opportunity, and dived deep into the water, in a direction contrary to that in which the canoe was sailing, and kept myself underneath, that they might not strike me with their paddles. Meanwhile, the boat came up with me, and the sailors pulled me in. The boat then attempted to run the canoes down; but knowing the consequence, that we should all have been murdered, as they were much superior to us in numbers, and we had no fire-arms, I called out to them to desist, telling them our danger; but here, again, I had actually so forgotten my own tongue, that I spoke in that of the natives. The natives understanding therefore what I said, were emboldened, and instead of continuing their flight, turned about and began to pursue us. If they had known that we were without fire-arms, it is probable they might have overtaken and murdered us all. We made all the haste we could to the ship, which, through the kindness of a merciful Providence, we safely reached. Secure upon the deck, I had the satisfaction to behold my late savage companions, whom I had been delivered by this concurrence of

too singular, to be called merely casual, making for that shore, on which, had I set my feet, the cruel revenge of a barbarian would soon have made it my grave. I often shudder at the thought of the peril in which my life and soul were at this alarming crisis, when a delay of a few minutes might for ever have cut off my return to the tranquil delights of civilized life, the soothing pleasures of a peaceful Sabbath, and the supporting consolations of religion." 1820

From Vavou, Vason was taken to China; and at Canton, hearing of an American vessel that wanted hands, he engaged himself as a common seaman, and disembarked at New York. From thence he returned to England, arriving in the Thames at London, in the month of October, 1802.

Though he never regained his former position in religious society, he conducted himself with great propriety, and moved in a respectable sphere. His benevolence and generosity were proverbial, and his chief failing was an occasional irascibility of temper.

His personal appearance was peculiar. An habitual gravity, approximating to a melancholy thoughtfulness which seldom permitted him to smile, marked his countenance. His forehead was rather low and projecting; his nose prominent, and singularly aquiline; his chin was broad, his mouth moderately wide, and his lips thick; his complexion was dark and sun-tanned; his eyes were small, grey, and particularly penetrating; and there was a sort of paralytic twitching about his mouth and visage. He was about five feet seven inches in height, of rather slender make, and his usual step was quick, and his speech hasty. He was remarkably clean and neat in his dress, and in most respects excellently adapted for his situation as gaoler. His age at his death was 66 years, and his remains were interred in the Baptist burial-ground, Mount-street.

April 12.—Bromley House, was purchased by auction, for the sum of £2,750, for the use of the Nottingham Subscription Library.

April 27.—The Independent meeting-house in Fletcher-gate, known as "Zion chapel," first opened for Divine worship. The Rev. T. East, of Birmingham, preached in the morning, and the Rev. Dr. Raffles, of Liverpool, in the evening. Collections, £105 7s.

June.—Mr. Denman having resigned the office of Deputy Recorder, Mr. William Reader, of Enhurst Park, Hants., was appointed to succeed him. Mr. Reader discharged the duties with distinguished ability, until his retirement in 1835. In the year 1830 a piece of plate was presented to him by our townsmen, as a public acknowledgment of his important services.

July.—A distressing casualty at the Salutation inn, Hounds-gate, placed the lives of the whole family in imminent danger. A small quantity of arsenic, mixed with oatmeal, for the destruc-

1820 tion of vermin, had been placed by the landlady, in a corner of the pantry which she thought would totally elude observation. Her mother, however, who was in her 87th year, found it, and very innocently put it amongst the oatmeal in the jar. In the course of the same morning, the oatmeal was used to thicken broth, of which all the family partook at dinner. Very alarming symptoms were immediately felt, and the cause being discovered, the landlady, with great presence of mind, administered without delay a quantity of sweet oil and vinegar. Dr. Payne attended directly after, and Mr. and Mrs. Green, their father and mother and son, the servant maid, the housewife, and the tap boy, were ordered to bed. Fortunately all of them recovered excepting the father, Mr. John Green, who died after lingering three or four days, aged 76 years.

August 8.—Lord Holland having invited the members of the Corporation to dine with him at Thurland Hall, a most sumptuous entertainment was provided. The principal toasts were: "The rights of the people," "The cause of liberty all over the world," "The immortal memory of Charles James Fox, (Earl Grey) and the Whigs of England," &c.

August 25.—The extensive cotton works of Messrs. Robert Hall & Son, at Basford, were totally destroyed by fire. The destructive element was first observed in the spinning-room on the fourth-floor, about one in the morning, by the watchman, who immediately alarmed the inmates of the neighbouring houses, and rang the bell at the top of the building. A considerable number of the villagers were speedily drawn together; but no effectual means could be adopted to arrest the progress of the flames, which had gathered great intensity and power. Even the fire-engines from Nottingham, that had been sent for on the first alarm, and had arrived by means of post-horses with the utmost despatch, were useless. Of the complicated machinery, and everything in the interior, nothing was saved except the books. It was conjectured that the calamity originated in the spontaneous combustion of some cotton waste. Messrs. Hall were insured; but not to the full extent of the damage.

August 28.—Lord Folkstone, M.P., the nominee of Lord Ranelagh and of Messrs. Birch and Denman, on the Parliamentary committees for determining the election petitions, arrived in the town, and was presented with the freedom of the Corporation. Lord Ranelagh, and a band of music, attended him from his hotel to the Guildhall.

September 28.—Mr. Ald. John Ashwell appointed Mayor; Mr. Robert Seale and Mr. C. H. Honer, Sheriffs.

October 10.—A public meeting of the ratepayers was held in the Guildhall, to consider the propriety of applying to Parliament for an Act to amend and enlarge the provisions of the existing Act for lighting the town. The Mayor presided. Mr. T. Wakefield and Mr. Hopper moved a resolution accordingly;

but Mr. Alderman Barber, seconded by Mr. Heard, submitted an amendment. He thought that a clause should be introduced authorizing the collection of a rate for watching as well as lighting the town. There were numerous robberies, he urged, in the lower parts of the town, and though some of the thieves were detected, many escaped; and it was necessary that there should be an organized night police. This was warmly opposed, on the plea of the great expense it would entail, and on a division, the original motion was adopted by a large majority.

Between 1820 and 1879 the contrast is remarkable. Then, twelve droway, and for the most part, superannuated watchmen, with their watch-boxes and rattles, paid it must be remembered solely by voluntary subscriptions, and confining their rounds exclusively to those streets in which the subscribers resided, were thought sufficient for the whole town. Now, the same service employs a well paid and organized force of 1 chief constable, 1 superintendent, 11 inspectors, 27 sergeants, and 148 constables; total, 188, under the direction of the Watch Committee.

November 11.—Tidings of the withdrawing of the Bill of Pains and Penalties against the Queen reached the town this morning by express, and created very general joy. Each day's report of the proceedings in the House of Lords had been reprinted in the town, and very widely and greedily received, and the abandonment of the bill was regarded by the numerous friends of Queen Caroline as a most distinguished triumph. Never, perhaps, were the popular sympathies more fully enlisted in favour of an accused party.

In the course of the following week numerous festivities were indulged in. There was a public dinner at the Fox and Hounds, in Carter-gate; Mr. Henry Leaver illuminated his factory in Duke's-place, and gave a handsome treat to his workpeople; a number of gentlemen dined at the Colonel Wardle, in Hounds-gate, and the house was brilliantly illuminated; at the Half Moon, in Carter-gate, a sheep was roasted and given away; there were also public dinners at the Peacock, in Warner-gate, and the Salutation, in Hounds-gate; and illuminations in almost every street.

On Monday, the 20th, the rejoicings were renewed, and at night there was a much more general illumination than the one on the Thursday previous. It was, however, confined for the most part to the householders of Whig politics. Many bonfires were made in the principal streets, and more than thirty sheep were publicly roasted. An effigy of Theobald Majocchi, the most notorious of the witnesses against the Queen, was carried in procession round the Market-place, and then burnt. Outside Chapel-bar there was a beautiful display of fireworks. Public dinners took place at twenty or thirty houses; and the rejoicings extended to Radford, Basford, Stainton, Butwell, Eastwood, and other places, at most of which illuminations, &c., were observed.

1820

December 15.—An attempt was made to assassinate Mr. Ald. Barber. He was standing in his shop, * between eight and nine in the evening, conversing with Mr. Roworth, when the would-be assassin fired a horse-pistol, or blunderbuss, heavily charged with slugs, from the corner of Fisher-gate, doubtless with the idea that they would go through the window into the worthy Alderman's body. Providentially, this was not the case; the slugs passed by him, and were received by the wall. Mr. Barber immediately rushed out of the shop in pursuit of the villain, but did not succeed in overtaking him; and though a reward of £500 was offered for his discovery and conviction, it does not appear that he was ever brought to justice. The only conceivable motive for so base an attempt must be referred to Mr. Barber's great activity as a magistrate. He was emphatically "a terror to evil-doers," and the crime was doubtless suggested by a spirit of revenge. Be this as it may, the attempt called forth in his favour a very general expression of sympathy, for few men were more respected or beloved.

1821

January.—Mr. Denman presented a petition to the House of Commons, from 7,220 of the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood, praying for an impeachment of Ministers; and also another, signed by 3,270, praying for the restoration of Queen Caroline's name to the liturgy.

January 29.—A public meeting was held in the Guildhall, into which hundreds who applied could not gain admission, for the purpose of agreeing upon a congratulatory address to the Queen, "upon the failure of the late attempt to effect her degradation." C. L. Morley, Esq., presided, and the speakers were Mr. Alderman Allen, Mr. Alderman Wilson, Mr. R. Hopper, and Mr. G. Gill. The address was adopted with unanimity, and was presented to her Majesty in person by Messrs. Birch and Denman, accompanied by Mr. H. Enfield, the Town Clerk.

February.—Great distress amongst the framework-knitting population. In the cotton branches immense numbers were out of employment, and teams of men, and in some cases women, were engaged in begging and in dragging waggons and carts about the streets, laden with coal and sand. A public subscription was raised for their relief.

March.—At the town and county assizes, no less than thirty-two persons were sentenced to be hung. The whole of them were subsequently reprieved.

May.—The census of the population was taken in the last week of this month. It presented the following returns:—St.

* The premises at the south-west corner of Hollow-stone, now occupied by Mr. Fletcher.

Mary's parish—6,105 houses, 32,712 inhabitants; *St. Nicholas's*—1821
845 houses, 4,117 inhabitants; *St. Peter's*—626 houses, 3,361
inhabitants; *Castle Limits and Standard-hill*—37 houses, 225
inhabitants; *Brewhouse-yard*—18 houses, 90 inhabitants: total
number of houses, 7,631; total population, 40,505.

July 19.—Coronation of George IV. The day was observed
as a public holiday. In the morning, St. Mary's church was
attended by the Mayor and Corporation and an extremely numer-
ous congregation. At noon, the 7th Dragoon Guards and the
Wollaton, Watnall, Nottingham, and Holme troops of Yeomanry
Cavalry, the whole under the command of Colonel Dunne, assem-
bled in the Market-place, and discharged their fire-arms. The line
extended from the Exchange to Chapel-bar. The Mayor then
stepped forward, accompanied by the Corporate body and the
clergy of the town, and invited the officers to join them in drink-
ing his Majesty's health. This being done, a succession of loud
huzzas concluded the ceremonial.

The same morning, the foundation stone of St. Paul's chapel-
of-ease was laid, with the usual ceremonial, by the Rev. G. Wilkins.
The inscription upon it was as follows:—"The first stone of a
chapel, dedicated to St. Paul, for the public worship of Almighty
God, agreeably to the rites and ceremonies of the Established
Church of England, was laid by the Reverend George Wilkins,
A.M., vicar of the mother church of St. Mary, this 19th day of
July, in the year 1821, being the day of the coronation of his
Majesty King George IV. The Right Hon. and Right Rev.
Edward Venables Vernon being Lord Archbishop of the diocese.
William Wilkins, Esq., A.M. and F.A.S., architect; and Mr. Spicer
Crowe, builder: both appointed by 'his Majesty's Commissioners
for building and promotive of building additional churches;' by
whom the expenses of this structure, and the ground on which it
stands, are defrayed from the Parliamentary grant."

Two public dinners served to further distinguish the day;
one at the Riding School, the other at the Feathers tavern.
At the first, L. Rolleston, Esq., was in the chair, surrounded chiefly
by gentlemen of Tory politics. The Mayor presided at the other,
and it was an assemblage principally composed of Whigs.

August 7.—Death of Queen Caroline, aged 52 years. This
unexpected and melancholy event gave rise to very general
expressions of grief, and on the following Sabbath, the pulpits
of nearly every place of worship in the town were covered with
black.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman C. L. Morley appointed
Mayor: Mr. J. Heard and Mr. W. Roworth, Sheriffs.

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January 29.—Death of the Rev. Henry Turner, the minister during five years of the Unitarian congregation, High Pavement. He was a native of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and at the time of his decease was 30 years of age. His remains were interred in Denton church-yard. Mr. Turner was succeeded by the Rev. Benjamin Carpenter, of Leeds, the cousin of Dr. Rant Carpenter.

March 19.—Trial of Henry Sanderson, aged 31 years, before Mr. Justice Best, for the murder of William Carr. Carr was gamekeeper to Sir Thomas W. White, of Wallingwell, and between six and seven on the morning of the 24th of October, in the previous year, was pursuing his avocation in Dadby wood. Hearing the discharge of a gun, he hid himself in a thicket by the side of a riding until the poacher came up, and then came out and seized him. The man, Sanderson, begged to be set at liberty, but finding entreaty ineffectual, drew back his arm, and shot him, saying, "Thou seest what thou'st got by it." Sanderson then walked leisurely away. With the greatest possible difficulty, the wounded man managed to crawl to the nearest house, a distance of nearly two miles, and gave such information as led to the murderer's conviction. The shot had penetrated near the navel, and had lodged in the muscles above the left hip. He continued sensible throughout the day, and died about eight in the evening.

Sanderson was a native of Carlton, near Worksop; and at the time of the commission of this offence, resided at Worksop. He eluded every attempt to apprehend him until the night of the 27th of February, when he was found in bed in his own house. His behaviour after conviction was very penitential.

March 20.—Every part of the Town Hall was crowded to excess to listen to the details of a long concealed and very remarkable murder, for the commission of which three men were arraigned at the bar, before the Hon. Sir W. D. Best. Their names were Robert Bamford, aged 20 years, Adam Adie, aged 29 years, and William Knight, aged 23 years; and the crime with they were charged was the wilful murder of John Timms, by throwing him over the parapet of the Trent Bridge, on the 19th of September, 1818.

It appeared in evidence, that at different periods of the day in question, the deceased was seen in company with all the prisoners; the last time being as late as nine in the evening. From that moment he disappeared, and was neither seen nor heard of until some days afterwards, when his body was discovered in the river near Holme Pierrepont, so horribly disfigured that even his immediate friends could only identify it by the circumstance of Timms having had two thumbs on one of his hands.

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Such a discovery, coupled with the great improbability of Timms having committed suicide, naturally excited grave suspicion, and it coming to the knowledge of the authorities that Bamford, Adie, and Knight had been seen with Timms on the night of his disappearance, they were taken into custody. Nothing, however, could be adduced against them to warrant their committal for trial, and in the course of a few days they were liberated.

And now to show how little one of the murderers thought of the magnitude of his crime: Mr. Thomas Green, a framework knitter, deposed at the trial, that on the Saturday after the men's liberation, he was at the Shakespeare public-house, in Milton-street, when he and the company were surprised to see Adie walk in, for they had supposed that he was still in prison. Adie said, "Green, will you give me a nip of ale, for I've had none since. I want to go!" Witness told him to take hold of the cup and drink, and threw a penny on the table, at the same time proposing to the company a subscription of one halfpenny a piece, on the plea that it was benevolent to relieve a man who had been in prison; a subscription was therefore made. Witness then said, "Adie, that did Timms was certainly made away with;" but Adie made no answer. Witness said, "You and Bamford and Timms were together that day at the Bogle House;" and Adie said, "Yes, we was." Witness continued, "You were at the Punch Bowl, and had three cups of ale there;" and Adie admitted that it was so. Witness pursued the inquiry, "What road did you go then?" No answer. Witness then said, "It is well known you and Bamford and Timms were in Trent lanes between eight and nine o'clock; you were met by several persons that knew you;" and Adie replied, he knew that. Witness said, "It is well known you were at the bridge at a quarter before nine;" and Adie acknowledged being there. Witness said, "What became of Timms?" and Adie replied, "He was thrown over the bridge; Bamford was the man that threw him over." Green said, "What into the levy hole?" No, he said, "on the contrary side, further on." Witness then asked Adie how far he was off: was he one hundred yards, eighty, sixty, forty? but there was no response. Witness then observed, "You must have been within twenty yards, or you could not have seen it at that time of night;" Adie replied, "I was so near that I saw it do it." A man named Dance, who was in the room listening, said, "Say no more, for God's sake; it makes my flesh creep upon my bones;" and so the conversation ended.

It seems extraordinary that after such a disclosure, made in the presence of a public company, no further steps should have been taken to bring the men to justice; but so it was: and had not one of them subsequently made a direct confession, it is probable that they would never have been arraigned before a human tribunal.

It happened, however, that in June, 1821, Bamford went to live at John Price's, the Rylands, near Beeston. On the 6th of

1822 July, he arose early in the morning, stole everything he could conveniently take, and set off for Derby. Being pursued and apprehended, he was committed to the County Gaol, and at the following assizes was convicted and sentenced to seven years' transportation.

In the solitude of his confinement, Bamford became the prey of bitter remorse and the terrors of a guilty conscience. The figure of the lad Timms (for he was only 17 years of age), he said, was continually presenting itself to his terrified imagination, whether asleep or awake; and rather than drag on any longer a truly miserable existence, he resolved to unburden his mind to a magistrate, and make an unreserved confession. This he did to the Rev. Dr. Wylde and Mr. Alderman Barber, in the following terms:—"On the Saturday night but one before the explosion at the Company's wharf, he met Timms and two others at the Artichokes, about six o'clock, and they agreed to go out together to poach; they went to the Trent-bridge, but as they were going it rained, and they turned into Chapmans, and stopped there till half-past nine. They all drank together: the first cup he paid for; then they paid all round, but when it came to Timms's turn to pay the second time, a dispute arose. When Timms refused to pay for his cup in turn, the other two men said they would sit him for it. They told Bamford they would have Timms's watch and money. When they were coming back again, and passing over the bridge, one of them said to Bamford, 'now attend.' One of them pinioned his arms behind him, Bamford went in front and took his watch and 3s. in silver, and Timms cried out, when the third man struck him, and the blood came out on his deponent; he stepped back, and the man who pinioned him threw him over the bridge. They heard Timms cry out 'O dear,' and the water gobbles in his throat. The stick with which he was struck was a blackthorn, about as thick as his wrist, and full of knots; it was got out of the East-cross the Sunday before. When they got to Chisley-pool the man that had the stick threw it away, saying he would not carry it any longer. It was computed that the watch was worth 10s., and he gave 5s. to each of the others, and had the watch. They went to the Artichokes, and he saw no more of the two persons that night." After a careful investigation, the jury convicted Bamford and Adie, but acquitted Knight, the evidence against him not being thought sufficiently clear.

March 22.—Execution of three convicts. A little before ten in the morning, Sanderson was brought out of the County Gaol, and the vehicle was drawn slowly to the Town Gaol, where he was joined by Bamford and Adie. A brother-in-law of Bamford and an intimate friend of Sanderson were permitted to ride with them. The Rev. Dr. Wood and the Rev. S. May Lund, the chaplains of the two gaols, then ascended the vehicle, and the former gentleman read a form of prayer suited to the occasion.

Bamford's conduct was peculiar. Instead of his mind being

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occupied with thoughts of the eternal world, he was talking with the executioner about the manner in which he usually performed his office, and complaining that in his own case there was not a sufficient length of rope. He was told that the hangman knew best; but his reply was, that he had attended many executions, and had paid particular attention to that point. His rope was, therefore, tied rather longer than the others. After adjusting the ropes, the executioner shook hands with them, and drew the caps over their faces, and when they perceived the cart moving, they all, as by one consent, jumped from the board on which they had been standing. Their bodies were dissected, and exposed to public inspection, at the General Hospital.

Robert Bamford was born in Pelham-street. His father, Samuel Bamford, was a framework knitter of Basford, and brought up his son to the same business. Adam Adie was born at Glasgow, of respectable parents. His father kept an inn at Ardry, about fourteen miles from that city, and was afterwards a linen-draper at Leith. Failing in business, he removed to Nottingham, and supported his family in easy circumstances for some time as a master stocking maker. Here he much neglected his son's education, and permitted him to associate with vicious companions. After living at Lenton about twelve months, he absconded in 1811, leaving his family in a most destitute condition. Grief shortly afterwards broke the heart of his wife, who was of a respectable family in Glasgow, and had brought her husband a decent fortune. She left a family of eight children. Adam had been a tap boy at the Peacock, in St. Peter's-gate; afterwards a private in the Notts. Militia; and lastly, had worked as a brick-maker and as a maltster. William Knight was a labourer, and though acquitted, was universally regarded as deeply implicated in the crime. He was afterwards always looked upon as a marked man, all classes of society refusing to associate with him, and if he intruded into any company where he was recognised, it was usual for him to be required to leave the room. He died at his lodgings in St. Ann's-street, June, 1838.

June 13.—Died, at her house in Pelham-street, of a gradual decay, the Hon. Mrs. Byron, aged 86 years, the last resident in Nottingham of that noble family.

June 22.—Death of the Rev. J. Green, aged 73 years. During many years, he was the minister of the Independents worshipping in St. Mary's-gate.

August 2.—A cricket match was played on the Forest, between eleven of Nottingham and the same number of the Holt club in the county of Norfolk. On the side of Nottingham were W. Hewitt, W. Clark, J. Dennis, C. Goodall, G. Smith, G. Jarvis, G. Thorpe, J. Hewitt, P. Bramley, T. Barker, and T. Warsop. Amongst their competitors were F. and W. Pilch, and other noted players. Our townsmen were the victors, scoring 109 and 98, Holt club 52 and 43.

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August 24.—Died, at Rempstone cottage, George de Ligne Gregory, Esq., of Hungerton House, in the county of Lincoln, aged 82 years. It is recorded of this gentleman, that the bare recital of the number of years that he kept his servants speaks volumes in his favour; for instance, his groom lived with him 43 years, his valet 39 years, his housekeeper 25 years, and two or three more about 20 years each.

The family of Gregory, from its early establishment and long residence here, has always been considered as more immediately connected with Nottingham than almost any of the neighbouring families. John Gregory, Esq., was the Mayor of this town in 1571 and 1586. His son William represented Nottingham in the Parliament summoned 43rd of Queen Elizabeth. In 1613, this gentleman gave eleven tenements, called the White Rents, situate at the bottom of Hounds-gate, for the use of the poor of St. Mary's. His son John granted a further rent charge upon the same estate, for the same use. Gregory Gregory, Esq., the son of John above named, served the office of Sheriff for the county in 1666; and in 1674 rebuilt the family mansion at the upper end of what is now called Carlton-street, part of which is occupied by Messrs. Wright's bank. George Gregory, Esq., son of the last-mentioned gentleman, was Sheriff for the county in 1694, and represented Nottingham in the Parliaments of 1702, 1714, and 1722. The son of this gentleman married the heiress of the Harlaxton estates, which place then became the family residence. The worthy person whose death we have recorded above was the offspring of this marriage, and served the office of Sheriff for the county in 1791.

August 26.—Cricket match at Sheffield, between fifteen of that district and eleven of Nottingham. The concourse of spectators was numerous beyond precedent; and in the height of the play, a large extent of scaffolding, forty yards in length, and having nine tiers of seats, suddenly gave way when crowded with people. Many were very seriously hurt. The Nottingham players, with one exception, were the same who contended with the men of Norfolk. Sheffield scored 41 and 81, and Nottingham, 120 and 5, thus winning with ten wickets to go down.

September 9.—The return match at cricket between Nottingham and Sheffield commenced on the Forest Ground, and was continued on the 10th and 11th. The game was decided in favour of our townsmen, with a majority of 113 runs on their first and only innings, although they numbered but eleven to the Sheffield club fifteen. Nottingham, 210; Sheffield 47 and 50.

September 23.—His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex honoured the town with a public entry, and was presented with the freedom of the borough. The *entrée* was made from Newstead, where the Duke had been sojourning as the guest of Col. Wildman, and he was welcomed by a great number of people, accompanied by flags and music. A number of cannon were fired, and a large assemblage of people assembled.

in the Exchange, and the Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs, and other officials, attired in their robes of office, awaited in the inner room the arrival of their Royal visitor; the other room or vestibule being filled by many of the most respectable local residents, ladies as well as gentlemen, who were admitted by ticket to witness the ceremony. This room was separated from the other by a temporary partition, about two feet high. A little after two o'clock, the carriage containing his Royal Highness and Col. Wilkman, drawn by four beautiful white horses, was observed travelling with great rapidity, and without waiting at all, was driven into the Market-place, leaving the band, flags, and a large crowd of people at a great distance behind. All along the route in the town, the windows were fully occupied with inhabitants, who greeted his Royal Highness, and the Duke returned their salutations by taking off his hat and bowing. On his sudden arrival at the entrance into the Exchange Rooms, he was most heartily welcomed by the few persons then assembled, and was immediately conducted up the steps, where he was received by the Mayor and Corporate body. After the presentation of an address and the Duke's reply, the usual burgess oath was administered, his Royal Highness repeating it, after Mr. Enfield in a very audible manner. These formalities being gone through, the Mayor presented his Royal Highness with the freedom of the town, and then invited him to partake of refreshment in an adjoining room. To this invitation the Royal Duke acceded, and he withdrew with the Mayor for that purpose, amidst the applause of the assembly, which he acknowledged by repeated bows.

The crowd was now very dense in front of the Police Office, and his Royal Highness showed himself at one of the windows, and addressed a few words to the people, which were received with hearty acclamations. At a quarter-past three, the Duke returned to Newstead. The Duke of Sussex was a frequent visitor at the Abbey. He died in April, 1843.

September 28.—An alarming fire broke out this evening on the premises of Mr. T. B. Milnes, bleacher, at Lenton, just after the workmen had left. The *Review* thus described it:—"The fire was first discovered by a boy, when it was breaking out, of what is called the stretching-room, where the cotton is placed to dry near a large stove. It is supposed the stove was over-heated, and set fire to a beam in the room. The boy immediately set off into the Park, running towards Nottingham, exclaiming as he went, 'Fire! fire! at Mr. Milnes's bleach-yard, and there is nobody there but me!' On his arrival in the town, the engines were immediately despatched; but before any of them arrived the fire had been seen from the Barracks, and the commanding officer, with the utmost promptitude, sent off a party of men who rendered most essential service. Four of the Nottingham engines, with a great many people from the town, arrived soon after. The contiguity of the Leen afforded a plentiful supply of water, and by

- 1822 the zealous exertions of the persons present, together with the judicious conduct of the directors of the engines, the flames were prevented from destroying a valuable building, in which were the doubling-room, containing an immense quantity of valuable machinery, the getting-up room, and the trim-shop; but the place in which the fire originated, together with the gassing-room and several others, were completely destroyed. The damage was calculated at about £500, and was insured to more than that amount. While several men were actively employed in carrying water up a ladder, it broke near the top, and they fell to the ground, whereby one of them, named Samuel Marshall, was much hurt."

September 29.—Mr. Ald. O. T. Oldknow appointed Mayor; Mr. J. Wells and Mr. T. Wilson, Sheriffs.

September 30.—Joseph Hume, Esq., M.P., attended at the Guildhall, and was invested with the freedom of the town.

October 24.—Consecration of St. Paul's chapel. The Archbishop of York performed the ceremony, assisted by the Rev. G. Wilkins, the Rev. E. Nicholson, and the clergy of the district.

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February 7.—A dreadful calamity by fire occurred in a house occupied by an old man named William Marsden, at the corner of Platt-street, with part of its windows in South-street. He was a bricklayers' labourer, and his wife took in washing; and it was supposed that leaving the clothes to dry too near the fire, when the family went to bed, was the cause of the accident. Marsden and his wife lay on the first floor, and had with them the son of a niece, named Taylor, about four years of age. The next floor was occupied as a mangle-room, and was also the sleeping apartment of Sarah Sotheron, aged 17 years, who assisted in the washing; and in the attic slept a young man who lodged there, named Thomas Bates. About half-past two o'clock, Mrs. Burrows, who lived at the opposite corner of the street, got up to attend to a child that was unwell, and was startled by hearing the cry of "murder," very loud and frequent, and evidently from a female. Opening the street-door, she found the street full of smoke, and immediately called her sons, who ran out and alarmed the neighbourhood. Before the engines arrived, every effort was put forth to awaken the Marsdens to a sense of their danger, and the window of the second floor being open, it was hoped they had escaped, as nothing could be heard or seen of them. At length, however, Bates made his appearance at the attic window, and the danger being imminent, threw himself out. The people beneath endeavoured to break his fall, but succeeding very imperfectly, he had to be carried away in a state of insensibility. "Flames then burst

from the windows with great vehemence, but the engines setting vigorously to work, they were soon subdued. On subsequent examination, it was ascertained that the family were within! The floors, being of plaster, had resisted the flames, which had mounted from one room to another, by means of the staircase. Marsden was first discerned, leaning against the wall near the foot of his bed, completely stupefied and nearly dead, the water from the engines having played upon him. The boy was discovered next, but so nearly suffocated, that he only survived a short time. Mrs. Marsden was found, quite dead. The body of the young woman, from whom it was supposed the cry of murder had proceeded, lay at the foot of the stairs almost covered with burnt wood, and most horribly disfigured. Her arms were lifted up, and her knees bent under her. Evidently, she had been alarmed by the smoke at an early period, had made unavailing attempts to escape by the window, and lastly, had rushed down the flaming staircase, which, giving way, formed her funeral pile. Mr. Griffin, the engineer, was particularly active, and found the sum of £43 amongst the ruins, which he restored to the old man on his recovery.

February 26.—The Corporation having presented the Jews with a small plot of ground in Sherwood-street, the Mayor was invited to lay the first stone of the inclosure wall. Mr. Oldknow, accompanied by other members of the Corporate body, accordingly attended for the purpose. The ceremony was very impressive. Moses Levi, the Rabbi, attired in his sacerdotal robes, at the head of his brethren, went three times round the ground, repeating the 91st Psalm, in Hebrew. The 133rd Psalm, and prayers for the Royal family, the Mayor, Corporation, and Burgesses, and the descendants of Israel, succeeded. Mr. Nathan then thanked the Mayor and Corporation for their liberal gift, and Mr. Ald. Barber, who laid the second stone, made a short reply, and the ceremony was concluded.

March 18.—Thomas Roe, aged 21 years, and Benjamin Miller, aged 21 years, were arraigned at the Town Hall, before the Hon. Sir James Allan Parke, on a charge of felonious assault and robbery on the King's highway. These young men were natives of the town, and together with a youth named Thomas Brooks, only 19 years of age, assaulted and robbed Samuel Marriot, a labouring man in the employ of Messrs. Simpson, Brich-hill farm, near Arnold. The offence was committed near the first milestone on the Mansfield-road, about seven in the evening of the 23rd of October. Not satisfied with plundering, they brutally ill-used their victim, by striking him repeatedly with a bludgeon. Mr. Joseph Walker and two gentlemen named Robinson, happened at the time to be turning the brow of the hill from Nottingham, and hearing Marriot's cries for assistance, pursued the robbers, who were attempting to escape. Roe was captured, after a spirited chase, but the others were not taken till afterwards. Brooks was admitted evidence for the Crown, and his companions being con-

1823 victed, received sentence of death. "You have shown no mercy to the poor man; I can show you none," said the Judge.

Roe was of reputable parentage, and had served an apprenticeship with Mr. John Holbrook, framework knitter, of Carlton. He had borne a good character till within a very short period of the committal of the robbery.

His associate, Miller, was much more deeply sunk in depravity. He had been bound apprentice to Mr. Smith, brick-maker, of the Nag's Head, Mansfield-road, but was led into the crimes of poaching, garden robbing, and highway robbery. He had been convicted of stealing a gun, and had only been released from prison five days when he committed the deed for which he was now under condemnation. In the interval, he had been engaged in a burglary and two other highway robberies.

They were executed on the 2nd April, at Gallows-hill. The remains of Roe were interred in the General Baptist burial-ground, Broad-street, at ten o'clock the same night; and those of Miller, the same evening, in St. Mary's church-yard.

March 27.—A curious discovery was made this morning, that would have furnished materials amply sufficient for an exciting romance. The Corporation, pursuing an improvement they had in view, which subsequently led to the erection of the long row of houses on the left hand side of Mansfield-road, had discharged the inhabitants of the rock-houses which then partly occupied the site, and revealed to the public the existence of an extraordinary cavern. On the 26th, a man, more adventurous than others, had endeavoured to explore its extent; but after wandering about it for nearly five hours, was glad to find his way out, which he did not accomplish without great difficulty. Two individuals, hearing of this adventure, determined to penetrate through the whole of its secret passages, and having provided lanterns, entered the cave about ten o'clock. After feeling their way in various directions for nearly two hours, until quite bewildered, to their astonishment, a man came quickly up to them from one of the passages bearing a torch, and politely offered his services as their conductor. Very gladly availing themselves of his assistance, they were led to a place or chamber in which they observed five men sitting round a light, playing at cards. They were then asked if they wished to go back again, and replying in the affirmative, were reconducted. When as they supposed about mid-way, a gang of ruffians, most probably the men they had seen gambling, with whom their guide was a confederate, rushed upon them. One of them managed to hide himself in a recess; but the other was robbed and severely beaten.

Public curiosity being aroused, for a few days afterwards the cave was thronged like a fair. It extended under Shaw's-lane (Sherwood-street), about two hundred yards, with long intersections, and its roof was supported by pillars of the native sandstone. The entrance to it was near the site now occupied by

Mr. Hill's factory, and the greater part of it may still be inspected, though it is now private. The cavern was hewn out by a sandman named James Ross, and was the gradual work of a great number of years. Bag by bag, and bit by bit, the rock was taken away for sale on the backs of his asses; the excavation forming a monument of the man's industry and perseverance.

April.—A public subscription of from £70 to £80 was raised on behalf of Robert Millhouse, the poet, who, from ill-health, was rendered incapable of following his employment of framework knitting, and was reduced to the lowest ebb of poverty. Lord Middleton gave £10.

April 10.—Death of the Rev. John Bryan, aged 72 years, sixteen years the faithful and laborious pastor of the church worshipping in Zion chapel, Fletcher-gate.

April 21.—The foundation stone of the Primitive Methodist chapel in Canaan-street was laid by the Mayor, Mr. O. T. Oldknow, in the presence of a large concourse of spectators. The Rev. J. Jarman and the Rev. W. Pickering delivered appropriate addresses.

"Primitive Methodism," as it is termed, originated at Tunstall, Staffordshire, and first assumed a Connexional form in 1811, when the first quarterly society tickets were printed. The epithet "Ranters," was first applied to them at Belper, in 1814. They were for a short time confined chiefly to Staffordshire, Cheshire, Lancashire, and Derbyshire; but afterwards extended to Nottingham, where a circuit was formed in 1815, and in 1818 this circuit included Derbyshire, Lincolnshire, part of Leicestershire, and as far north as Hull. The first general assembly or conference after the Connexion was divided into circuits, was held in Nottingham, August, 1819. The delegates again assembled in Nottingham, in 1826, in 1843, and in 1850.

May 16.—Laying of the corner-stone of the Independent chapel in St. James's-street, by the Rev. R. S. McAll, A.M., of Macclesfield. The Rev. Wm. Notcutt delivered an address.

June 6.—Mr. Alderman Soars's tobacco and snuff manufactory, in Chandlers-lane, greatly damaged by fire, which originated under the staircase near the steam engine chimney, fourteen feet below the level of the street. The furnace had been so intensely heated that the redness had penetrated through a fourteen-inch wall, and ignited the wood of the staircase. Though extensive, the damage was not nearly so great as it might have been.

July 21.—The Mayor, Mr. Oldknow, laid the first stone of a Wesleyan Methodist chapel, in St. Ann's-street, (now the Temperance Hall). The Rev. Dr. Hannah, the Rev. R. Alliot, and the Rev. Mr. Ransom, took part in the ceremony.

August 1.—The foundation-stone of the new Plumtre Hospital, in Red Lion-square, was laid on the site of its predecessor, by the Rev. C. T. Plumtre, B.A., of Claypole, on behalf of his father, John Plumtre, Esq., of Fredville, Kent, the master or guardian of the charity, and a descendant of the founder, John

- 1823 de Plumptre. The rev. gentleman was attended by the Mayor, Mr. Alderman Barber, Mr. Alderman Wilson, and the Rev. R. W. Almond, A.M., (the three latter gentlemen being named in the Act for rebuilding the Hospital), Mr. Percy the steward, Mr. Staveley the architect, and a numerous and respectable assemblage. The ceremony commenced by the Mayor reading aloud the inscription affixed to the stone, and then addressing the spectators. It was, he observed, a very gratifying circumstance, that the stone was about to be laid by a direct descendant of the benevolent man who erected a hospital on the same place, nearly five hundred years before. He was succeeded in his observations by Messrs. Wilson and Barber, who proposed that, in commemoration of the event, the place should thenceforth be known as Plumptre-square. Mr. Plumptre then laid the stone, and the business was concluded.

August 29.—The uncertainty of the game of cricket is proverbial, and in no instance, perhaps, have we a better illustration of it than in the one about to be related. A match commenced this morning, on the Forest ground, between eleven of Nottingham and fourteen of Leicester, for sixty guineas aside, and thousands assembled to witness it. The Nottingham players were Dennis, Clark, Barker, Jarvis, J. and W. Hewitt, Goodall, Roper, Smith, Warsop, and Thorpe. They went in first, and to the astonishment of their supporters, scored but 53. The odds at the commencement of the play were thirteen to six in favour of our townsmen; but at this point they turned completely in favour of Leicester, and large sums were freely laid on the result. So confident, indeed, were the latter players, that they sent off an express to their friends at home with a statement of their opponents' first innings, and instructions to lay odds on their own success. A very short time, however, sufficed to again materially alter the complexion of the game. If their own fielding had been excellent, which it undoubtedly was, they found that that of Nottingham was still better. Between four and six o'clock, when the stumps were drawn for the night, they scored but 13 runs, and lost ten wickets!

The next morning, the match was resumed, and the fourteen concluded their innings for a total score of 33. Rain having now set in for the day, it was agreed to adjourn till the morrow.

On the third day, the second innings of Nottingham amounted to 137, of which Dennis, who played surprisingly well, scored 50: he was in more than three hours, and carried out his bat. When the stumps were drawn for the night, five of the Leicester wickets had been lowered for 12 runs.

Thursday, the fourth day, witnessed the termination of the game. Leicester scored in their second innings, 57. Our townsmen thus retrieved their position, and won with 100 runs to spare.

September 9.—A terrible conflagration broke out about four in the morning, on the premises of Messrs. J. & H. Youle, timber

1823

and raff merchants, near the Navigation inn, Wilford-street, the origin of which was involved in mystery. It was confined chiefly to a lage shed, close to the back yard of the inn, and near the canal. The shed was well stored with mahogany veneers, cedars, ebony, and other valuable timber. Being sawn up into thin pieces, and placed perpendicularly, the flames spread with the utmost rapidity, and raged with tremendous violence. The first efforts were to preserve the adjacent properties. The household goods of Mr. Brown, the landlord of the inn, were ejected in great haste through his windows, and placed partly in neighbouring houses and partly in the Meadows on the other side of the canal, a troop of soldiers, who had been sent for from the Barracks, being stationed to guard them. When an engine arrived from the depôt in Castle-gate, attention was directed to a great quantity of planks ranged perpendicularly against the gable-end of Mr. Brown's stable. Four additional engines soon afterwards arrived, and the three most powerful being brought to bear actively upon the outhouses and inn, their destruction was averted. The blazing pile, which covered more than 150 square yards, formed one vast furnace, the flames soaring in spiral columns towards the heavens, surmounted by immense volumes of steam, which were readily distinguishable from the dense and suffocating clouds of smoke that threw a mantle over the whole. The heat was so intense that the men who directed the engines from the opposite bank of the canal had to be protected by wrapping themselves in wet blankets, and an engine in the yard itself was actually charred. About half-past five, an immense stack of firs ignited; but the copious streams of water supplied by the assembled multitude, soon arrested the progress of the fire; by six, it was so far subdued that the engine-men on the south of the canal were enabled to cross to the other side; and by ten, the flames were totally extinguished.

September 24.—An election dinner, in the Whig interest, at the Exchange Hall. Lord Rancliffe presided, and, the chief speakers were the Mayor, Mr. Birch, M.P., Mr. Denman, M.P., Sir F. Burdett, Bart., M.P., Mr. Waithman, M.P., Sir R. Heron, Colonel Johnson, M.P., Colonel Wildman, Mr. Strutt, of Derby, and Mr. T. Wakefield.

September 29.—Mr. Ald. William Wilson appointed Mayor; Mr. Henry Leaver and Mr. Thomas Guilford, Sheriffs.

November 3.—Mr. W. Sadler, son of the aeronaut who visited the town in 1813, made an ascent in his balloon from the Castle-yard. So great was the interest excited that, at as exact a computation as could be made, nearly two thousand people (admitted by paying 2s. each) were in the yard, and sixty or seventy thousand gazing from the outside. The balloon was liberated about half-past two, and the wind being from the south-west, it passed over the town, and descended at a quarter to four, at Thorpe-on-the-Hill, a village about five miles from Lincoln.

1824.

1824 *January 29.*—Lord Middleton gave a grand ball and supper at the Exchange Rooms, to a large and brilliant assemblage of rank and fashion. The guests were about four hundred in number. In addition to the noble Duke and Duchess, there were present, Lord Scarsdale and family, Lord Viscount Newark, Admiral Sotheron, General Grey, Sir Wm. Earle Welby, Sir Robert Clifton, Sir George Sitwell, Henry Willoughby, Esq., Colonel Wildman, Colonel Coape, the Hon. Mrs. Thompson, the Rev. Dr. Staunton, &c.

April 19.—Death of George Gordon Noel, Lord Byron. Lord Byron was born in Holles-street, London, on the 22nd of January, 1788. In 1790, his father, Captain Byron, and his mother, Mrs. Byron, went to reside at Aberdeen. In 1791, the father died at Valenciennes, in France. In 1796, after an attack of scarlet fever, Byron was removed by his mother, for a change of air, into the Highlands. His granduncle, the fifth Lord Byron, died in 1798, at Newstead Abbey, having passed the latter years of his life in a state of austere and almost savage seclusion, and Byron succeeded to the title. Mrs. Byron and her son, attended by their faithful Mary Gray, left Scotland for Newstead the same year.

The youthful lord having a malformation of the foot, was brought to reside at the old family house at the south-east corner of Pelham-street in this town, to be placed under the care of a person who professed the cure of such cases. The name of this man, who appears to have been a mere empirical pretender, was Lavender; and the manner in which he is said to have proceeded was by first rubbing the foot over, for a considerable time, with handfuls of oil, and then twisting the limb forcibly round, and screwing it up in a wooden machine. That the boy might not lose ground in his education during this interval, he received lessons in Latin, we are told by Moore, his biographer, from Mr. Rogers, a respectable schoolmaster, who read parts of Virgil and Cicero with him, and represents his proficiency to have been, for his age, considerable. He was often, during his lessons, in violent pain, from the torturing position in which his foot was kept; and Mr. Rogers one day said to him, "It makes me uncomfortable, my Lord, to see you sitting there in such pain as I *know* you must be suffering." "Never mind, Mr. Rogers," answered the boy; "you shall not see any signs of it in me."

With that mindfulness towards all who had been about him in his youth, which Moore represents as a distinguishing trait in his character, he many years after, when at N^o 1, sent a message, full of kindness, to his instructor, # bearer

of it tell him that, beginning from a certain line in Virgil which he mentioned, he could recite twenty verses on, which he well remembered having read with this gentleman, when suffering all the time the most dreadful pain. 1824

We are told it was about this period, according to his nurse, Mary Gray, that the first symptom of any tendency towards rhyming showed itself in him; and the occasion which she represented as having given rise to this childish effort was as follows:—An elderly lady, who was in the habit of visiting his mother, had made use of some expression that very much affronted him; and these slights he generally resented violently and implacably. The old lady had some curious notions respecting the soul, which she imagined took its flight to the moon after death, as a preliminary essay before it proceeded further. One day, after a repetition, it is supposed, of her original insult to the boy, he appeared before his nurse in a violent rage. “Well, my little hero,” she asked, “what’s the matter with you now?” Upon which the child answered, that “this old woman had put him in a most terrible passion, that he could not bear the sight of her,” &c., &c.,—and then broke out into the following doggerel, which he repeated over and over, as if delighted with the vent he had found for his rage:—

In Nottingham town, very near to Swine-green,
Lives as curst an old lady as ever was seen;
And when she does die, which I hope will be soon,
She firmly believes she will go to the moon.

This is supposed to have been his first rhyming effusion, though he himself dated his “first dash into poetry,” as he called it, a year later.

Finding but little benefit from the Nottingham practitioner, in the summer of 1799 he was removed to the establishment of Dr. Glennie, at Dulwich, whence he was transferred to Harrow in 1801.

Mrs. Byron did not again visit Nottingham till 1803, when she came to reside once more at the mansion in Pelham-street, Newstead Abbey having been let to Lord Grey de Ruthen, and during the Harrow vacation this year she was joined here by her son. So attached was he to Newstead, that even to be in its neighbourhood was a delight to him; and before he became acquainted with Lord Grey, it is said he used to sleep, for a night, at the well-known hostelry, “the Hut.” An intimacy, however, soon sprung up between him and his noble tenant, and an apartment in the Abbey was thenceforth always at his service. To the family of Miss Chaworth, who resided at Annesley, he had been known, some time before, in London, and now renewed an acquaintance with them. His biographer observes, “The young heiress herself combined with the many worldly advantages that encircled her, much personal beauty, and a disposition the most amiable and attaching. Though already fully alive to her charms,

1824 it was at the period of which we are speaking that the young poet, who was then in his sixteenth year, while the object of his admiration was about two years older, seems to have drunk deepest of that fascination whose effects were to be so lasting;—six short summer weeks which he now passed in her company being sufficient to lay the foundation of a feeling for all life.”

“His time at Annesley,” we are told, “was mostly passed in riding with Miss Chaworth and her cousin, sitting in idle reverie, as was his custom, pulling at his handkerchief, or in firing at a door which opens upon a terrace, and which still, I believe, bears the marks of his shots. But his chief delight was in sitting to hear Miss Chaworth play; and the pretty Welsh air, ‘Mary Anne,’ was (partly, of course, on account of the name) his especial favourite. During all this time he had the pain of knowing that the heart of her he loved was occupied by another;—that, as he himself expresses it,

Lord Byron Her sighs were not for him; to her he was
Even as a brother—but no more.

Neither is it indeed probable, even had her affections been disengaged, that Lord Byron would at this time have been selected as the object of them. A seniority of two years gives to a girl on the eve of womanhood an advance into life with which the boy keeps no proportionate pace. Miss Chaworth looked upon Byron as a mere school boy. If at any moment, however, he had flattered himself with the hope of being loved by her, a circumstance mentioned in his ‘Memoranda,’ as one of the most painful of those humiliations to which the defect in his foot had exposed him, must have let the truth in, with dreadful certainty, upon his mind. He either was told of or overheard Miss Chaworth saying to her maid, ‘Do you think I would care anything for that lame boy!’ This speech, as he himself described it, was like a shot through his heart. Though late at night when he heard it, he instantly darted out of the house, and scarcely knowing whither he ran, never stopped till he found himself at Newstead.

“The picture which he has drawn of his youthful love, in one of the most interesting of his poems, ‘The Dream,’ shows how genius and feeling can elevate the realities of this life, and give to the commonest events and objects an undying lustre. The old hall at Annesley, under the name of ‘the antique oratory,’ will long call up to fancy the ‘maiden and the youth,’ who once stood in it; while the image of ‘the lover’s steed,’ though suggested by the unromantic race-ground of Nottingham, will not the less conduce to the general charm of the scene, and share a portion of that light which only genius could shed over it.”

After a brief interval, Miss Chaworth was married to his successful rival, John Musters, Esq., of Colwick.

The vacation of 1805 Byron passed with his mother at Southwell, to which place she had removed from Nottingham, having taken the house on the Green, called Burgage Manor.

From 1805 to 1808, when he took possession of the Abbey at Newstead, he kept terms at Trinity College, Cambridge. In 1806 he printed for private circulation his first volume of poems, of which Mr. Ridge, of Newark, was the publisher. In 1809 he attained his majority, took his seat in the House of Lords, and published *English Bards and Scotch Reviewers*. 1824

In the same year he set out on his first tour; and after visiting Portugal, Spain, Greece, Asia Minor, &c., returned to England in 1811. Soon after his return he lost his mother. In 1812 he published *Childe Harold*, Cantos I. and II., which was followed, in 1813, by *The Giaour*, and *The Bride of Abydos*; and, in 1814, by *The Corsair*, and *Lara*. In 1815 he married; and in 1816 his daughter Ada was born, and the separation took place: after which event he left England for the last time, and passing through the Netherlands, the Rhine country, and Switzerland, he took up his residence at Venice. In this year he published *The Siege of Corinth*, *Parisina*, *The Prisoner of Chillon*, and the third Canto of *Childe Harold*. In 1817 he made an excursion to Rome, in company with Mr. Hobhouse (afterwards Sir John Cam Hobhouse, and Lord Broughton), and published *Manfred* and *The Lament of Tasso*. In 1818 he published the fourth and last Canto of *Childe Harold* and *Beppo*: in 1819 *Mazeppa*, and *Don Juan*, Cantos I. and II.: in 1820, *Marino Faliero*: in 1821, *Sardanapalus*, *The Two Foscari*, *Cain*, *The Prophecy of Dante*, and the third, fourth, and fifth Cantos of *Don Juan*: in 1822, *Werner*; and in "*The Liberal*," *Morgante Muggori*, *The Vision of Judgment*, and *Heaven and Earth*: in 1823, *The Age of Bronze*, *The Island*, and from the sixth to the fourteenth Cantos of *Don Juan*: and in 1824, *The Deformed Transformed* and the fifteenth and sixteenth Cantos of *Don Juan*—his last publication.

After his journey to Rome in 1817, he returned to Venice, where he remained till 1819. From the time of his leaving Venice he resided in various parts of the Italian States, chiefly at Pisa and Ravenna, till he embarked for Greece in 1823, in which country, at Missolonghi, he died at the date already indicated, *stat.* 36.

The reverend individuals who have the honours of Westminster Abbey at their disposal having refused to inter the body under the sanctity of that ancient roof, it was brought to Hucknall Torkard, and deposited in the family vault, on Friday, the 16th of July, by the side of the perishing remains of his mother, exactly on the same day of the same month in the preceding year in which he had said, somewhat despondingly, to Count Gamba, "Where shall we be in another year?"

The body of the noble bard arrived in Nottingham on the 15th, and awaited interment till the next morning, at the Blackmoor's Head inn. At ten, the procession set out in the following order:—

1824

Two Constables on horseback.

Two Bailiffs on horseback.

Mr. Woodeson, the Undertaker, on horseback.

James Orme, Esq., and twenty-six of Lord Ranccliffe's Tenants on horseback.

Two Mutes on horseback.

A large Plume of black Feathers, carried on a man's head, with two supporters, on foot.

Four Cloakmen on horseback.

The State Horse, richly caparisoned and led by two Pages, the Rider carrying the Coronet of the deceased Lord on a crimson velvet cushion ornamented with gold tassels and fringe.

The Hearse, containing the Body.

Mourning Coach and six, with the Urn, containing the Heart.

Mourning Coach and six, containing, as Chief Mourners, Colonel Leigh, Colonel Wildman, John Cam Hobhouse, Esq., M.P., and John Hanson, Esq.

Mourning Coach and six, with the late Lord Byron's Household.

Mourning Coach and six, containing the Mayor of Nottingham, Alderman Soars, and Sheriffs Leaver and Guilford, attended by three of the Corporation servants, in full mourning.

Mourning Coach and six, containing the Town Clerk, Under-Sheriff, and the rest of the Deputation from the Corporate Body, attended by three servants in full mourning.

The Right Hon. Lord Ranccliffe in his carriage.

William Sherbrooke, Esq.'s carriage, closed.

Colonel Wildman's Carriage, containing the Pall-bearers, Messrs. Stavelay, A. T. Fellows, Dunn, Homer, J. Fellows, and Smith.

A Chaise, with Mr. H. M. Wood and Mr. John Crackle.

A private Carriage.

About forty Gentlemen on horseback.

The *cortège* moved down Smithy-row, along the Market-place and Chapel-bar, round into Parliament-street, and then proceeded up Milton-street and along the Mansfield-road as far as the seventh milestone, where it turned off for Hucknall, by way of Papplewick. It was accompanied by large bodies of spectators.

Soon after half-past three, the procession began to enter the church, the vicar, the Rev. Mr. Nixon, taking the lead. The body and urn were brought in, and placed on trestles in the aisle, Colonel Leigh, Lord Ranccliffe, Colonel Wildman, J. C. Hobhouse, Esq., and John Hanson, Esq., occupying the principal pew, and the Mayor and Corporation the one opposite. Mr. Nixon read the burial service; and at four, the vault received all that was mortal of the illustrious Byron.

August 19.—The Rev. W. Leeson, a Fellow of Clare Hall, Cambridge, brother of Mr. R. Leeson, solicitor, of this town, and well known from his occasionally performing duty at St. Peter's and Wilford churches, committed suicide. The rev. gentleman left his brother's house at Wilford, in the morning, and was not seen again till the 23rd, when his body was observed in the Trent, by a framework knitter named Johnson, who happened to be fishing near the Wilford upper ford. At the inquest the following day, it was clearly ascertained that the unfortunate gentleman had been labouring under insanity, and the jury brought in a verdict accordingly.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Samuel Deverill appointed Mayor; Mr. F. Hart, junr., and Mr. James Fellows, Sheriffs.

October.—In the early part of the month, rain descended in great quantities, and from Saturday the 9th to Tuesday the 12th,

almost without intermission. The result was an immense flood. 1824
All the lower apartments of the tenements in Trent-row were inundated, and the poor people had to take refuge in the upper stories. The east end of Narrow-marsh was similarly circumstanced.

The flood was at its height at nine a.m. on Wednesday, the 13th. It had overflowed the road between the Pinder's house and the Trent-bridge; and between the east end of the bridge and the public-house, carts and waggons that passed were up to the axletrees. The Meadows resembled an immense lake, over which, as the day advanced, pleasure boats were seen skimming in all directions.

In 1795, the flood filled the cellar of the house near the Trent-bridge occupied by Mr. Armitage. On this occasion, it was only eighteen inches short of doing so again: and for twenty-four hours the London and Leicester coaches were entirely prevented from entering the town.

October 31.—His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex attended the assembly for the benefit of the General Hospital. On the 3rd of November he again visited the town, and inspected Mr. Homer's lace factory. On the 4th, attended by Colonel Wildman and his suite, he visited the works of Mr. Hall, of Basford, for gassing lace. The effectual manner in which the rough fibres were removed excited the Duke's complete astonishment. His Royal Highness then honoured Mr. Hall with a visit to his house, and partook of a sumptuous repast; and after complimenting him in warm terms for his ingenious and useful inventions, set out on his return to Newstead. He again came to Nottingham on the 4th, and inspected the House of Correction, attended by Colonel Wildman, Mr. Alderman Barber, and other gentlemen. The Duke went over nearly every room, and examined the arrangements very minutely.

December 3.—A remarkable and fatal accident took place this morning. On the west side of the road leading from the Riding School to Brewhouse-yard, and facing Gilliflower-hill, stood two small houses, immediately under the ancient Castle wall. One of them was inhabited by a man named Millup, his wife, three children, and three young men who were lodgers: the other was occupied by a man and his wife of the name of Cavagan, and two lodgers. Heavy and continued rains had excited fears for their safety, the wall at the back having shown decided symptoms of instability; and early in the morning, Cavagan went to Mr. Dams, who lived at the Castle Lodge, and prevailed upon him to send some masons to prevent the threatened catastrophe. Three men were immediately set to examine and repair the breach in the masonry, and Cavagan, having done all he thought needful, proceeded to his usual employment. His wife remained at home washing, and went out occasionally into the yard, but her fears increased every time, as the apertures between the stones were manifestly getting wider. About ten o'clock, a Mrs. Joyes, who resided opposite, shouted to her to come out: she did so, and

1824 when out of danger, Mrs. Joynes directed her attention to the wall. The terrified woman had hardly time to exclaim, "O dear! I see it move!" ere the ponderous overhanging stones fell upon the houses, together with an immense mass of earth and sand, and overwhelmed them in one common destruction.

Providentially, the loss of life was limited to one person. From Cavagan's, everyone had gone out. Of the inmates of the other dwelling, Millup and the lodgers were at work; the two eldest children were at school; but Mrs. Millup and the youngest child, a girl about two years of age, were unfortunately at home. The masons escaped, having gone to their employers for materials.

Directly it was ascertained that human beings were amongst the ruins, a number of persons set to work, at the hazard of their lives, to see if they yet lived. After very laborious and protracted exertion, a dog was first discovered, alive, but mortally injured. In another half hour, silence was called, and one of them putting his ear to the ground, heard distinctly the voice of a woman, as though at a great distance. The efforts were of course renewed with great eagerness, and soon after the child was found, quite dead. The woman was at length liberated from her awful position. Her preservation was owing to the circumstance of a door having fallen and shielded her head, but her body was so covered with bricks and rubbish that it took fully ten minutes to extricate it after she was first seen. Four medical gentlemen, Mr. Attenburrow, Mr. Maddock, Mr. Watts, and Mr. Wright, were in attendance, and having ascertained that none of her bones were broken, ordered her immediate removal to the Hospital.

The scene at the ruins, throughout the day, was of an exciting nature. The kitchen fires continued burning underneath the rubbish, and fragments of furniture lay scattered about in the wildest confusion. It called into activity all the exertions of the constables to prevent parties searching for plunder.

1825.

1825 *February 14.*—Died, at his house in Castle-gate, aged 59 years, Robert Bigsby, Esq., Registrar of the Archdeaconry of Nottingham, which office he had held 31 years. He was succeeded by Charles George Balguy, Esq.

February 24.—The following account of an election of two Senior Councilmen will show the feeling then existing against the enclosure of the commonable land:—

The Mayor took the chair, and Mr. A. T. Fellows proposed Mr. Charles Haywood Homer, knowing that Mr. Homer would never consent to an inclosure of the commonable lands. Mr. Homer assured the burghesses that he never could surrender their present rights and privileges.

1825

Mr. T. Wakefield said he appeared before the burgesses under very different circumstances to what he had expected, for the candidates appeared to be all of one opinion; they were all, or *they said* they were all, enemies to an inclosure. He objected to an inclosure in every way and shape. First, because he did not think it possible to carry it into effect, with justice to the burgesses and the landowners. To effect an inclosure, commissioners must be appointed; and when this was done, the Church, which looks after the interests of the people in the next world, and after their own in this, would put in their claim to a large share; the landowners would want another large share; and the burgesses would have nothing but the odds and ends and corners. (Applause.) Secondly, he objected because an inclosure would be injurious to the health of the town. Thirdly, it would deprive them of the pleasant privilege of walking in the fields. And lastly, it would produce by the contrariety of jarring opinions, a great deal of ill humour and ill feeling. At present an inclosure was only in embryo; but if it should ever come forth into being, he would, with their assistance, at once grapple with it, and never leave hold till he had strangled the unsightly monster. (Loud cheers.) These being his opinions, he begged to nominate a gentleman whose sentiments were similar; this was Mr. William Roworth, a decided enemy to an inclosure in any form. Mr. Theaker seconded the nomination; and Mr. Roworth expressed his uncompromising hostility to any inclosure whatever.

Mr. Alderman Oldknow then proposed Mr. Henry Leaver, and was of opinion that he was as much against an inclosure as any man in the world. The nomination being seconded by Mr. Hurst, Mr. Leaver said he was of opinion, the difficulties were so great, the time for an inclosure could never arrive. He would never agree to it, unless the whole of the proceeds could be secured for the benefit of the poor burgesses only. (Loud applause.)

Mr. T. Wakefield congratulated the burgesses on the unanimity of opinion respecting the commonable lands. The question of inclosure had received a stab; it had retrograded a century by that morning's exposure.

The polling was continued with much spirit for four days, when Mr. Roworth sent in his resignation. The numbers at the close were, Mr. H. Leaver, 1578; Mr. C. H. Homer, 1129; Mr. W. Roworth, 820.

March.—The last remaining plot of Gregory's paddock was sold to the Roman Catholics, for the erection of a chapel. It is remarkable that on this small paddock no less than five places of worship should have been erected; namely, St. Paul's (Church of England), George-street (Particular Baptist), Broad-street (General Baptist), Parliament-street (Methodist New Connexion), and the Roman Catholic.

April.—The two years preceding this date had been a season of unparalleled prosperity to the local trade; and as the first

1825 symptoms of declension began now to show themselves, a review of the extraordinary development of the industrial resources of the neighbourhood during the exciting period may here be appropriately introduced.

In the year 1809, Mr. John Heathcoat, of Loughborough, obtained letters patent for fourteen years' protection of his invention of the bobbin net machine, during the existence of which he and his partner, Mr. Charles Lacey, levied a heavy tax upon all persons adopting a similar principle, amounting in some cases to £30 per annum on each machine. On the expiration of this patent, in March, 1823, speculation the most extensive and ruinous set in, and capitalists of every grade anxiously embarked their money in the bobbin net vortex. For a while everything proceeded most prosperously. To construct the machinery, hundreds of mechanics, tempted by extravagant wages, poured into the town from Sheffield, Birmingham, Manchester, and other places; machines and houses "sprang up like mushrooms;" money circulated freely, and the town was intoxicated with the thirst for gain. "The twist fever" is the generally received designation by which the excitement is remembered.

To render this memorable season more familiar, and to place upon permanent record a few of its more remarkable features, it is essential amongst other things to state that great improvements had been made upon the principle of Heathcoat's patent. The machines on the original principle began to be known as "Old Loughboroughs," "Loughborough Improveds," and "Braley's:" these, not even excepting Braley's, which was the swiftest, were all very slow, and upon the same double tier construction. The traverse warp, invented by Brown and Freeman, had not undergone any material improvement since 1810. Though Mr. Heathcoat's patent expired in March, 1823, he held another for "the Turn-again," a very small apparatus, which until 1827 caused the carriages to traverse; and an attempt was made to continue the monopoly under this patent. This, however, was set at defiance by Lingford, of Nottingham, and several others, and at a meeting held in Thurland Hall, in August, 1823, the patentee consented to throw it open.

The impetus this gave to the manufacture was most astonishing. Almost every person became anxious to invest something in bobbin net machinery. Hitherto the public had in a great measure been restricted from entering into it by the joint combination of the leviathan patentee and the owners of machines who had licenses from him, but now every impediment of this nature was withdrawn, and all classes rushed into the arena of enterprise.

The adventurers who became proprietors of machines were tradespeople of the town and neighbourhood, persons of small independent means, and others who resided at a distance, including a very large proprietor in the county of Kent; the lace manu-

1825

facturers themselves not owning more than one-third of the total number. Farmers, bakers, butchers, bankers, publicans, in fact almost everyone who could raise money to buy a machine, shared in the general mania.

The terms on which the machines were rented varied of course with their capabilities. From £12 10s. to £20 per quarter per annum were rates readily realized. Many of the holders purchased them of the proprietors, out and out, at £100 per quarter, by instalments; these were commonly, 10s. per quarter, or £3 a week for a six-quarter machine, until the purchase money and interest were fully paid off.

As may be inferred, journeymen's wages were very high, ranging from £4 to £7 per week, according to capacity. By other mechanics, twist-hands were the most envied of mortals, and premiums of £60 were given in many instances for the mere privilege of learning. Unfortunately, few of the hands knew how to improve their golden opportunities. Elated with their elevation in the social scale, instead of making provision for the day of adversity, they imagined they should never again know want, and recklessly squandered their earnings in riot and dissipation. Thus, one of them, in more sober moments, when the golden vision had fled, expressed his recollection of the folly of the time in the following ditty:—

With rum, and gin, and brandy O, we made the people stare,
And horse and gig so handy O, to take the morning air;
And then with single-breasted coats and spanking new top boots,
And pockets lined with one pound notes, we were the merry shoots.

The bobbin and the carriage hands they scarcely would look down,
Or bend their portly bodies for to pick up half-a-crown;
And if it had but lasted long, I think they wouldn't stoop
To poor beef-steaks and onions, but they'd dine on turtle soup.

The cobbler left his soles and heels, and wouldn't be so mean
As to stick to wax and 'tatching-ends, but bought a twist machine;
The tailor left his board and goose, the miller left his grist,
Tag, rag, and bob-tail all got loose, to get into the twist.

And servants left the mop and broom, and wouldn't go to place,
But set their dainty hands to work, to purl and mend the lace:
But to tell the long and short of it, and so to end my song,
Among so many twisters, sir, they've twisted it too strong.

Within a few months, scores who had been receiving these high wages were glad to sweep the streets for a bare subsistence, and not a few of them subsequently ended their days in the workhouse.

While the fever lasted, the machine makers shared largely in the general prosperity. For some months the demand for machines greatly exceeded the means of meeting it, and the journeyman framesmith felt, if possible, even more independent than his brother, the twist-hand. The setters-up were the best paid. Their charge for adjusting a six-quarter levers machine, was £20 2s., which a workman would complete in a fortnight or three weeks, according as the parts were well or ill finished to his hands.

1825 Finishing or file smiths had from £3 to £4 per week, if accustomed to the nature of the employment: those who came from Birmingham, Sheffield, and other distant places, and were not used to "flat-filing," had to be satisfied with from £1 10s. to £2 2s. The forger (not the striker), when proficient, commanded from £5 to £6 per week, and a few even as much as £10. In addition to the stated remuneration, it was customary for both masters and customers to give the smiths expensive "treats" in the shops; and it was not uncommon for persons who were anxious to speedily possess the machines they had ordered to give privately handsome *douceurs* to the men, to expedite them as much as possible.

In the "insides" department, the bobbin hands received the highest remuneration. A large proportion of them had been clock and watchmakers, attracted to the town from all parts. Their weekly wages were from £3 to £4.

The carriage hands were paid with much less regularity. Thus, moulders, stampers, grinders, &c., received but from 15s. to 25s. per week; whilst the setters, vergers, and finishers commanded from two to three guineas.

The point, pusher, guide, comb, and sley makers, and also the turners, were at a great premium. Circular iron bolts were 18s. 6d. per hundred; pushers, 3s. 9d.; lever guides, 3s.; straight bolt guides, 8s.; bolt flat points, 1s. 6d.; and forks, 2s. 3d.: and these prices, it must be observed, were simply journeymen's wages.

During the excitement the number of master smiths in the town and neighbourhood was more than trebled. Stables, kitchens, cellars, and the most unlikely places, were converted into smiths' or bobbin and carriage makers' shops; and in the lack of better qualified men common blacksmiths and farriers were enlisted into the service.

In connection with this mighty movement, there must have been, of course, a great demand for its ultimate product,—the bobbin net. Such for a time was the case; and for plain nets (none others being made) the machine-holders realized an enormous sum. The manufacturers' advance on this left them also a handsome profit. The prices to the consumer would now be thought fabulous.

As soon as symptoms of impending reaction became apparent, the more sagacious of the machine-holders began to curtail their operations, and to gradually sell out. Some of these had risen from poverty, and by retiring in time laid the foundation of future opulence. The commonality, however, were not so prudent, and were swept again into indigence by the memorable panic at the end of the year. Fortunes, speedily made, were speedily lost; and numbers, while they supposed their course to be clear and free from difficulty, by the sudden reflux of the tide found their vessel of hope stranded and dismantled on the shoals of disappointment.

The only feature in connection with the fever that remains for notice was the extraordinary difficulty in finding house accommodation for the amazing influx of population. Thousands of houses were erected by greedy speculators, who studied, not the convenience and health of those obliged to take them, but how they might best secure 20 per cent. per annum for their outlay. Many more would have been built had not the prices of land and materials been extravagantly enhanced. Bricks, for example, rose from 30s. to £3 per thousand; and a plot of land on Gilliflower-hill, not quite an acre in extent, was sold by auction for £4,000. No sooner was a row of dwellings roofed and glazed, than the kitchen fires began to smoke and the rentals to commence. The inquiry was not so much, "What is the rent?" as, "Will you let me a house?" In one instance, a butcher who had been exhibiting from town to town a "wonderful pig," in a common showman's caravan, ousted the porkine tenant, and stationing the vehicle in his garden at the back of York-street, actually let it as a dwelling-place for 2s. 3d. per week.

May.—An important acceleration of the speed of the mail from London was hailed with general satisfaction. The mail which left town the evening before began now to arrive in Nottingham about half-past ten, performing the journey, *via* Bedford, Kettering, and Melton, in about fifteen hours, then thought to be the utmost expedition possible. After delivering the bag at the Post Office in High-street, and changing horses, the mail resumed its course, proceeding through Mansfield, Chesterfield, and Sheffield to Leeds, where it arrived about half-past seven in the evening.

May 31.—Death of the Rev. C. Wyld, D.D., rector of St. Nicholas's, during the long period of 52 years, aged 78. He was also a prebendary of Southwell, and an active county magistrate. His remains were deposited within the walls of the parish church, on the 7th of the following month. The Lord Chancellor presented the vacant living to the Rev. W. J. Butler, who was then curate at St. Mary's.

June 3.—Death of William Skipwith, commission agent, Clumber-street, aged 64 years. This individual was remarkable for his love of out-door exercise. During the last twenty-three years of his life, he regularly took a walk in the Park before breakfast, and made it a point to touch the cross-bar at the entrance to the Barracks; and so particular was he in the due performance of this undertaking, every morning during that long period, that he disregarded the state of the weather, and several times had to wade up to the knees in snow.

July 2.—Thomas Dewey, of this town, murdered Maria, wife of Thomas Austin. Dewey and his victim lived both under one roof, in Brook-street, but in separate rooms; they had one common staircase, and Dewey's apartment was directly opposite the one occupied by deceased. A woman named Farrowell had occasion to call upon Mrs. Austin just before the deed was

1825 committed, and found her and Dewey together, exchanging words of an irritating tendency. Dewey then went into his own room, and returning almost immediately, struck the deceased on the left side, exclaiming, "There then!" The blow was quick, and seemed to be very violent. Dewey at once returned to his own apartment. Farrowell did not observe that he had any weapon in his hand, but seeing that the deceased was falling from her seat, went to her assistance. She seemed very faint, and throwing one arm round Farrowell's neck, pressed the other to her side. One of her daughters, named Maria, was then told to fetch her uncle Eneas, but Dewey, who had been listening, re-entered the place, and said, "Don't you send for any person, for she is a murdered woman!" There was neither light nor fire in the room when the murder took place, and when Farrowell asked Dewey to procure one, he replied, "It's of no use; she's a dead woman!" He, however, fetched one from his own room, and on his return, took hold of the deceased's hand, kissed her face, and said, "There, that's the last." The man then walked coolly out of the house, but was met on the staircase by Eneas Whiting, who said, "Tom, what have you been about?" He replied, "Nothing," and turned down the street.

Mr. J. White, surgeon, was almost immediately in attendance; but it was found that the left lobe of the liver had been perforated four inches deep with a common butchers' knife, and Mrs. Austin died in about three-quarters of an hour.

The murderer was soon apprehended. At his trial, on the 25th of July, before the Hon. Sir James Allan Park, he pleaded insanity, and was supported in it to some extent by the testimony of several relatives and friends; but the jury would not admit the plea, and he was condemned to death, apparently as little concerned as any in the court. He was executed on July 27th, at the usual place on Gallows-hill; and the body was delivered at the General Hospital, for the purpose of dissection.

Dewey was born on Sun-hill, in this town, and his father was a framework knitter. He received but little education. At the age of 17 years, he was apprenticed to Mr. Thomas Warwick, of Calverton, as a stockinger, and being steady and industrious, attended the Primitive Methodist meeting-house and was admitted into their society. Soon after his short apprenticeship was completed, he returned to Nottingham, and married a young woman named James, with whom he lived happily for nearly four years, but then formed an improper acquaintance with Mrs. Austin.

Mrs. Austin is described as very good looking, and about 32 years of age. Her husband, Thomas Austin, had been living apart from her for some time; but on the Friday before her death she had an interview with him in Leicester, where he lived with another wife and family, in reference to the apprenticeship of their eldest son. On that night Austin's two wives slept together, while he sought lodgings elsewhere! He came over with her to

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Nottingham the next day to make the necessary arrangements, and it is supposed that Dewey must have seen or heard of her walking about with him in the streets, thus creating the jealousy that led to the commission of the deed. Late in the evening they separated, Austin going to his mother's, in Parliament-street, and she to her room in Brook-street. Her murder took place a few minutes afterwards. Dewey, when he had committed the deed, bent his steps to his father's, in Clinton-street, where his wife was, and gave her all the money he had on his person, saying that it was the last she would ever receive from him; and in about an hour after, he was apprehended at the house of his father-in-law, on Independent-hill. He was in his 26th year.

May 6.—The pavement in the Poultry had been taken up, for the purpose of forming a large common sewer, at a considerable depth. In connection with this, three men were engaged in laying down a branch sough, leading from the yard between the shops occupied by Mr. Wright and Mr. Webster. They had dug completely round one of the stone pillars supporting the house, to a great depth, when suddenly the small surface on which the pillar stood gave way. Two of the men who were in the hole were immediately buried. One named Scott was extricated alive; but the other, Thomas Burton, of Wilford, was suffocated.

August.—Part of the weathercock of St. Peter's spire having fallen upon the leads, and other symptoms of decay presenting themselves, Mr. Philip Wooton, son of the man who repaired it in 1789, was engaged to restore it. He commenced operations on a Tuesday afternoon, and proceeded with such celerity that he fixed three ladders, one upon another, by the side of the steeple, in his usual manner, mounted to the top, an elevation of 151 feet, and brought down the weathercock on his shoulder, in less than two hours from the time of the first ladder being brought into the churchyard.

The aspiring mason was several weeks in completing the whole of his undertaking. He pulled down and rebuilt the apex, replaced the weathercock, which was made of copper and measured twenty-nine inches from the beak to the tail, and also fixed on the rod a ball of gilt copper, three feet four inches in circumference. But the most difficult performance was repointing the spire, the whole of which he performed without scaffolding, by standing on a short ladder, suspended by a rope from a pulley at the top of the long line of ladders. In this manner he also sawed off all the crotchets or knobs which up to this time had ornamented the sides of the steeple.

September 21.—Sophia Hyatt, the mysterious "White Lady" of Newstead, was accidentally run over, in Maypole-yard in this town, by Potter, the Loughborough carrier. She was very deaf, and the fore-horse knocking her down, the cart wheel went over her back and killed her instantly. This elderly body was an enthusiastic admirer of Byron, and for several years spent nearly

1825 the whole of her time in pensive solitude amongst the gardens and grounds of the Abbey. No one knew exactly whence she came, nor what were her connections. Her remains were interred in Hucknall churchyard, as near as possible to the vault containing those of the immortal bard.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Barber appointed Mayor; Mr. Wm. Walker and Mr. S. H. Swann, Sheriffs.

October.—The treadwheel was first erected in the House of Correction. The axle-trees, about sixteen feet long, were of cast iron, and weighed $13\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. each. The whole length of the wheel was about thirty feet.

November 16.—The town was again excited by the perpetration of a foul and unnatural crime,—a man named Wood having, in a moment of passion, most brutally murdered his wife.

The murderer, Samuel Wood, was born in Stag-court, Lamb-lane, in the year 1796, and had been brought up as a framework knitter. Afterwards he became a boatman, then a dyer, and lastly, a bobbin and carriage maker. In 1817, he married a respectable young person named Lamb, in whose right he subsequently came in possession of £60 a year, bequeathed by a relative, so that his circumstances were tolerably comfortable. They had three children,—two boys and one girl. He was good looking, and about thirty years of age.

The particulars of the murder were disclosed at the trial, which commenced on the 13th of the following March, before Mr. Justice Littledale. When called upon to plead, he said "not guilty," in a firm tone, but almost immediately afterwards fell backwards in a fit, and filled the court with convulsive sobs and groans. Two surgeons, Mr. Oldknow and Mr. White, rendered assistance, and after an interval of about twenty minutes, during which the business of the Court was suspended, restored the unhappy man to consciousness. It was then thought advisable to defer the trial to the next day. Accordingly, on the 14th, the investigation was proceeded with. Mr. Reader conducted the prosecution, and Mr. Williams the defence. It was proved that, at about half-past ten at night, Wood, impelled by the unfaithfulness of his wife, struck her on the head repeatedly with a coal-hammer, in the house they occupied at the back of Parliament-row, opposite Bunkers-hill; and that her skull and jawbone were frightfully fractured. An excellent character for general humanity was given to him by several respectable witnesses, but of course this could not lessen the enormity of his crime, and the jury pronounced him guilty. He was executed on the 16th, on Gallows-hill, and his body was dissected at the General Hospital.

December 13.—At a public meeting of the manufacturers, tradesmen, and inhabitants of the town, the Mayor in the chair, it was resolved, that, "considering it very desirable that an expression of confidence in the several banks of this town should immediately go forth to the public, we do hereby declare our

perfect reliance in the solidity and safety of each and every of the Nottingham banks, and that we shall receive their notes in payment with the most perfect satisfaction." 1825

This unusual but very necessary proceeding was induced by the remarkable position of monetary affairs throughout the country. In our own town, for two or three days previous, there had been strong indications of a general run upon the banks, and every man having anything to lose was in a state of anxious trepidation. Though none of our banks stopped payment, yet the extensive failures in other places, the extreme difficulty of converting anything into cash, and the sudden and ruinous depreciation in the value of machinery and manufactures, brought numbers of our townsmen who had invested their little capitals in trade, and had fancied themselves comfortably secure, into a state of irretrievable distress. Whole families were compelled to relinquish every prospect in life, and stood as bare under the storm as Lear and his strange comrades on the heath.

At first, here and there, the failure of a commercial house was announced, generally of those which nobody supposed to be very stable. But presently, one firm after another stopped payment: one at a distance known to possess enormous landed estates; another to be the proprietors of rich mines; a third to have great wealth, fixed or afloat, in the colonies. In these cases, the same story was always told; that it was merely a temporary embarrassment, and that the firms possessed property far exceeding in value their entire liabilities. But so many of these embarrassments occurred, each spreading disorder over its range of influence, that it presently became doubtful what any kind of property was really worth, for any practical purpose. Then, of course, came the turn of the banks, the securities they held for their vast and rash advances having become, for the time, little better than waste paper. In the height of the panic, buying and selling everywhere came almost to a stand; for people generally looked at every kind of bank-note as if it would burn their fingers, and thought they would rather hold their commodities than exchange them for paper. In many districts, all who had money in any bank ran to get it out. The run upon the banks spread from side to side, and very soon to London. Lombard-street was full of men of business, standing about, waiting to hear the disasters of the day, or of persons, even of great wealth, who were hastening to their bankers to draw out their deposits. On the 5th of December, the news spread with the speed of the wind, that the banking-house of Sir Peter Pole & Co. had stopped. The funds went down immediately; and faster still next day, when the bank of Williams & Co. stopped. From this time, the crash went on without intermission, till in five or six weeks from sixty to seventy banks had stopped payment. Fortunately for our own neighbourhood, the four local banks weathered the storm; but Leicester, Hinckley, and other places experienced the full rigour

- 1825 of the overpowering blast. The panic did not entirely pass away for some months. Throughout the whole of the following year there were numerous failures; and the suffering in Nottingham and elsewhere was deep and general. After a weary and dreary season, however, things began to mend as the winter of 1826 set in; but so heavily, that even the King's speech, which is understood to make the best of everything at all times, declared, in November, that the depression had abated more slowly than his Majesty had anticipated.

1826.

- 1826 To mitigate in some measure the severity of the prevalent distress amongst the lower classes, a public meeting was held at the Exchange, and a subscription entered into. The contributions amounted to about £3,000, and £500 was forwarded by the London Committee for the Relief of the Manufacturing Poor, being part of a national subscription. The local committee administered relief during several months, by distributing each week 10,000 quarts of soup and 10,000 pounds of bread. Two hundred men with families were also set to work on Mapperley-hills.

February 15.—The Methodist New Connexion chapel, Parliament-street, having been considerably enlarged, was re-opened for Divine service this day (Wednesday), by the Rev. J. Thorpe, of Chester, when the sum of £80 was collected. On the following Sunday, a further sum of £77 was contributed, after discourses by the Rev. W. Driver, the Rev. W. Pickering, and the Rev. S. Woodhouse.

February 18.—At the bottom of Hollow-stone, facing the London-road,* there had been from time immemorial, several spacious caves, hewn out of the sandstone, the ground above which was part of the extensive garden of Mrs. Morris, of Short-hill. In one of these excavations, about fourteen yards in length, a number of lads and others were playing, between three and four in the afternoon, when a great portion of the roof suddenly fell in. The alarm was instantly given by those who escaped, and a crowd of persons assembled round the spot, who, as soon as the roof was in some measure secured, diligently employed themselves in digging for the sufferers. John Barber, Esq., Mayor, sent for a body of constables, order was preserved, and seven bodies soon were disinterred. Two more who were considerably hurt, were conveyed to their friends, and another was slightly hurt. The bodies of six of the sufferers were conveyed to the Red Lion public-house, where a surgeon attended, but they were all past recovery; and as it was market day, and greatly inconvenienced

* The site occupied by the second or third shop from Bellar-gate.

the house, they and the other were conveyed to the Guard House. The names and ages of the sufferers were, Thomas Hall, aged 13 years, of Poplar-place; Thomas Mitchell, aged 16 years, of Garner's-hill; William Hopewell, a Blue Coat boy, aged 12 years, of Barker-gate; Robert Davis, aged 10 years, an inmate of St. Mary's poorhouse; Charles Arnold, aged 11 years, of Leen-court; John Jordan, aged 13 years, of Coalpit-lane; and Chas. Hadfield, a young man aged 19 years, of Warren-court.

May 8.—The 10th Hussars removed to Manchester; and were succeeded at our Barracks by four troops of the 1st Life Guards. The dazzling appearance of the men in their steel body-armour attracted thousands of spectators, by whom they were accompanied into the town. Major-General the Hon. H. Cavendish, M.P. for Derby, rode at their head.

June.—General election. The Blue or Tory party having been defeated at the previous contests, up to the 8th, the day of nomination, no idea was entertained by the other party that there would be on this occasion an opposition. Mr. Birch had again presented himself, and Mr. Denman had quietly withdrawn, to make room for Lord Raneliffe. As the Blues made no sign, no canvass had commenced, nor had any preparations been made; but on the morning of nomination, there was a marked change on the countenances of the leading Tories; and as they brightened up, the visages of their opponents proportionately lengthened.

On assembling in the Exchange Hall, Mr. Hopper, seconded by Mr. T. Wakefield, nominated Joseph Birch, Esq., and Mr. A. T. Fellows and Mr. C. Homer proposed Lord Raneliffe. Dr. Storer, seconded by Mr. A. Hadden, amidst the loud applause of the party, nominated John Smith Wright, Esq. The show of hands was in favour of the Whigs, but a poll being demanded, voting immediately commenced, and was sustained during ten days, ending as follows:—Birch, 2234; Raneliffe, 2158; Wright, 1894. Number of electors polled, 4051. Mr. Birch's majority over Mr. Wright, 340. Lord Raneliffe's majority over Mr. Wright, 264.

On the 10th, Mr. Denman arrived from London, and after voting for the Whig candidates, addressed the electors in their favour, from the windows of the Black Boy committee room.

It was generally thought on the 17th, that Mr. Wright, seeing that success had become impossible, would resign; and so it turned out, for though both he and Dr. Manson spoke as usual from the windows of their committee room at the George the Fourth, at eleven o'clock at night Colonel Charlton and the Rev. J. W. Butler, active members of the Blue committee, waited upon the hostile camp at the Black Boy, and in the name of Mr. Wright formally resigned the contest. The Yellow band was immediately sent round the town to announce the victory, and special messengers were despatched to London, Manchester, and other places, to stop the voters who were expected to arrive on Monday. F. Hart, Esq.,

1826 the chairman, vacated his seat, and the committee broke up and took away their books, anticipating with pleasure that Monday would be the day of chairing and of triumph. But Mr. Hopkinson, solicitor, supported by two or three members of Mr. Wright's committee, was not satisfied, and announced his intention to persevere in the struggle on the following morning. The Whig committee, though it was Sunday, met in the afternoon, and revoking their former order, sent fresh despatches for the unpollled outvoters.

The Hall was accordingly reopened on Monday morning, but the voting was very inanimate, and at three in the afternoon, Mr. R. Shaw requested the assessor to put an end to the poll. Mr. Amos declined; and soon after, Mr. Shaw, remarking that there was no candidate to oppose Birch and Ranccliffe, nominated Mr. Hopkinson, and the nomination was formally seconded, amidst loud laughter. In a few minutes, the mirth was greatly increased, by a vote being given for Hopkinson, by Mr. Howett, sinker-maker, of Parliament-street. At five, Mr. Hurst, in a speech of some length, urged upon Mr. Amos to terminate the contest. Mr. Hopkinson replied, and then the assessor declared that should no voters present themselves after due proclamation at nine the next morning, the poll would be declared finally closed.

On Tuesday morning, no other electors coming up, Birch and Ranccliffe were declared duly elected; and the chairing took place in the afternoon of the same day.

The victory was celebrated on Tuesday, the 4th of July, by a public dinner at the Exchange Hall. Mr. T. Wakefield, presided, and the principal speakers were Lord Ranccliffe, Colonel Gardiner, W. B. Martin, Esq., Mr. J. H. Barber, Mr. Hurst, Mr. F. Hart, and Mr. Hopper.

July 14.—George Milnes, aged 34 years, and Joshua Smith, aged 25 years, were arraigned at the County Hall, before Mr. Justice Abbott, for burglariously entering the house of a person named Wheat, at Rampton, near East Retford.

It was clearly proved that they broke into the premises on the 31st of May, and stole therefrom a silver cup and a large quantity of drapery goods, about £200 in value. They were taken into custody the next evening, near Ordsall, with part of the stolen property upon them, but not without a determined resistance. The judge sentenced them to expiate their crime on the scaffold. They were executed on Wednesday, July 26th, and after hanging the usual time, the bodies were cut down and taken to the County Hall. In the afternoon, Milnes's was deposited in St. Mary's churchyard, and Shepherd's was removed to his wife's house in Wool-alley, Barker-gate, and at eight in the evening of the same day, was interred in the old burial-ground, Barker-gate. Though not attended by a clergyman, the pressure to catch a glimpse at the coffin was greater than at the place of execution: the walls of the ground and every window of the

surrounding houses were crowded with spectators, and it was with the greatest difficulty the criminal's wife and mother forced a passage to the grave side.

Joshua Shepherd, *alias* Smith, was a native of Nottingham, and had before, at the Lent Assizes in 1816, been capitally convicted of stealing a watch, but, on account of his youth, had had his sentence commuted to six months' imprisonment.

George Milnes, *alias* Ponter, was a native of Radborne, near Malmsbury, in Wiltshire, and was a stout, good looking man. He had served an apprenticeship with a joiner, but had enlisted into the 4th Dragoon Guards, and deserting, had come to Nottingham.

July.—An extremely protracted drought so lowered the Trent, that no person living could remember the water so low before. Advantage was taken of the circumstance to examine and reconsolidate the bridge. One of the piers on the eastern side was entirely rebuilt, and the others were repaired. Under and above the sixth arch from the north end, a number of pieces of sculptured stone were found, some of which were beautifully wrought mullions of windows. These remains doubtless belonged to the ancient chapel of St. Mary, which was built on the bridge, and were precisely of the same shape as the mullions of the upper windows of St. Mary's church, a portion of which is now (July, 1879,) in the garden of Bromley House. Respecting the site of the chapel, there has been great difference of opinion. Dr. Thorton says it was *on* the bridge; Deering supposes it to have been *near* the bridge, on the plot of ground called Lady-bay; and Blackner conjectures that it stood near the public-house at the western corner of the northern abutment. It is, however, most probable that the sacred edifice spanned quite across near the centre of the bridge, with merely an archway through it for the passage of a carriage; and that after the Reformation, when the chapel was no longer required, it was pulled down, and the smaller stones and rubbish thrown into the water. If so, it follows that the sixth arch, that against which the stones were discovered, was "the chapel arch," and that upon it the knees of holy men of the olden time have been frequently bent in the solemn exercises of devotion. In the summer of 1817, a number of men employed in repairing the foundations of the bridge, observed, in the bed of the river, a quantity of Gothic stonework; and fragments of the old chapel were brought to light in 1831.

The following particulars of the Trent Bridges are principally extracts from a paper by Mr. J. P. Briscoe, F.R.H.S., &c., read before the Royal Historical Society, April 22nd, 1873, and printed in the society's *Transactions*.—"The earliest intimation of the existence of a bridge is in the Saxon Chronicle, where it is recorded that in 924, 'before midsummer, went King Edward (the Elder) with an army to Nottingham, and ordered the town to be repaired on the south side of the river, opposite the other, and the

1826 *bridge over the Trent* betwixt the two towns.' The piers were composed of stone, and the platform was of wood. This bridge was of the greatest utility, inasmuch as it united the northern and southern parts of the country. This was probably the first bridge erected over this celebrated river.

"During the excavations for the foundations of the new bridges, traces of what we may infer to have been a landing-stage have been brought to light. These consisted of some cross-braced framing, formed of black oak beams trenailed together with oak pins, the whole resting upon large unhewn blocks of stone.

"In 1156, Henry II. rebuilt the strong wall with which Edward the Elder encircled the town, and we believe that he built the first arched bridge of stone. Supposing this to have been so, then this bridge was one of the earliest stone bridges erected in England, as the first stone bridge reared in the country was the Bow Bridge, which was built in 1118. In the 30th year of the reign of Edward the First, a license was granted to John le Paumer, of Nottingham, and his wife Alice, to give £6 13s. 4d. in rents, for *two* chaplains in the chapel of St. Mary, situate on the Trent Bridge, then known as 'Hethebechebrigge.' It was ordered, in 1614, 'that the bridge-masters do take up £20 for six months, upon their own bond; and to be allowed it again upon their accounts being passed, as the *bridges are in so great decay*, and must be repaired this summer.' One of the middle arches of the Trent Bridge fell on the 10th August, 1636. The rebuilding of it cost the town upwards of £100. In 1683, in consequence of great floods, a considerable portion of the Trent Bridge was torn away. The bridge was of wood, supported on stone pillars. Since that time, it was entirely rebuilt of stone, supported by twenty arches, at the expense of the Corporation, who took charge of the repairs. In addition to several grants from the Crown, besides gifts and legacies, the bridge's sustentation was by 'toll of millstones, and upsets of mercers, tailors, cordwainers, &c.' From the foot of this bridge there was a strong causeway, well secured with brickwork, and covered with flat stones, leading to the higher parts of the meadows, and from thence to the lower parts, where planks were raised from a foot to two feet, by which people might go dry shod during the flood time to and from Heathbeth Bridge. These were repaired by the bridge-masters. A toll-house was set up about 1724 by the King and Parliament for the repairs of the bridge. Toll was exacted for several years after the erection of the toll-house.

The great floods of February, 1795, do not appear to have caused much damage to the Trent Bridges. The Hen Cross being demolished in 1801, the materials were employed in the repair of the Trent Bridges. The bridge being so narrow at the southern end that two carriages could scarcely pass, the Corporation, in 1806, ordered the eastern parapet to be rebuilt, and the arches to be lengthened, which rendered it tolerably *acious*. In 1810,

a range of buildings which stood at the eastern side of the northern end was taken down, and that end of the bridge was widened, as well as the bridge over what is known as the Old Trent. The Watch-House was at the same time taken down. The bridge consisted of seventeen arches.

"The 'Bridge ledger' shows that scarcely a year passed during the last twenty of its existence, without considerable sums being expended in repairing the structure. In 1850, the abutments of the bridge were repaired with one hundred piles shod with iron. About the year 1851, it was discovered that one of the dry arches near the south bank had sunk, which caused the Town Council to adopt measures for securing it. In 1853, Sir William Cubbitt, O.E., prepared plans for a new bridge. It was intended that the proposed bridge should not interfere with the decayed fabric, which should be permitted to stand until its successor should be completed. Presuming that solid rock was to be found, Sir William was of opinion that a complete bridge and approaches could be built for less than £30,000.

During the year 1854, the piers were repaired with stone. In the following year, the sum of £200 was required for brick-laying. During the same year, a further sum of £400 was expended on the bridge. In 1856, the abutments of the bridge being in a weak condition, 98½ tons of stone were required to strengthen them. During the succeeding year, the abutments again received attention. It was determined to sink 142 tons of Derbyshire stones to preserve them from the action of the river. Convinced that some measures were necessary to sustain the old bridge beyond the ordinary repairs which were ever being made, the bridge committee caused a sunk weir to be constructed, in 1858, across the river, a little below the old bridge, on the site of the present new bridge, in order to hold up the water, and prevent the scour that was seriously endangering the foundations of the large piers. This weir was formed by filling several large old barges with Mountsorrel granite, and sinking them into the bed of the river, and then covering the whole with layers of granite, so as to form a continuously compact mass.

In October, 1871, the work of demolishing the old structure commenced, when some portions of the sculptured stone were found; but it seems that none have been preserved with the exception of one piece, which is now in the garden of Mr. M. O. Tarbotton, F.G.S., Borough Engineer.

August 3.—Mr. Green made his first aerial ascent from Nottingham. A large space in the centre of the Market-place was inclosed with boards, where the process of inflation had been completed the previous day. A number of ladies and gentlemen, for the consideration of 10s. 6d. each, were then gratified with ascents to a considerable height, and after enjoying the prospect from their giddy elevation, were pulled down again, by means of ropes attached to the car. In this manner, during the afternoon

1826 of the 2nd and the morning of the 3rd, eighty or ninety were accommodated, and as many more were ready for a soar, had there been time, numbers who came late being refused. At ten minutes to two, accompanied by Mr. Saywell, of Leicester, who purchased the privilege for 25 guineas, Mr. Green left *terra firma*, the balloon rising vertically till it gained an altitude of 2,400 feet, and then encountering a north-west current, was carried eastward. In about fifty minutes, during most of which time the aeronauts were visible, the balloon descended in a field in the pariah of Edwalton; and at seven o'clock Mr. Green was again in Nottingham, bringing his balloon with him on the top of a chaise.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Allen appointed Mayor; Mr. William Enfield and Mr. Thomas Shipman, Sheriffs.

November.—This month was attended by a number of diabolical attacks upon females, by stabbing them, as they passed along the streets, in the dark. Nine well authenticated instances are recorded. Miss Mary Ann Darker, for example, daughter of Mr. Darker, of Broad-marsh, was attacked between six and seven in the evening, at the top of Wheeler-gate, and would probably have been killed, had not the point of the instrument, violently thrust by the unknown ruffian, come in contact with the bone of her stays. On the following night, a daughter of Mr. Manderfield, the tailor, was stabbed at the corner of Pepper-street. And a night or two afterwards, a servant of Mr. Cross, the county gaoler, received a wound near Mr. Cumberland's shop, in Bridle-smith-gate. The alarm arising from these mysterious outrages may be readily conceived.

December.—A great local improvement. The open sough in the Market-place, receiving the drainage from the houses on the Long-row, was superseded by an underground sewer; the Long-row itself was flagged, instead of pebbled, as theretofore; and the Market area, hitherto very unlevel and miry, was properly levelled and paved. The raising of the spacious area to its present level required an amazing quantity of soil, which was obtained by removing many hundred cubic feet of the Gallows-hill. In removing it, fifteen human skeletons were found.

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1827 *January 18.*—The town was greatly horrified by the discovery of an organised system of despoiling the sanctuaries of the dead, by a gang of "resurrection men," who were in the habit of selling the bodies for the purposes of dissection. The *Review* gave the following particulars:—"On the afternoon of Thursday, January 18th, about five o'clock, a man named Smith, *alias* Hammond, brought a hamper to Messrs. Pickford & Co.'s warehouse, Leen-

bridge, to be conveyed to 'S. Rogers, 2, Bucklersbury, London.' 1827
Mr. White, the book-keeper, having had his suspicions excited, requested Smith to take the hamper into the counting-house; which being done, Mr. White told him he was afraid that all was not right, and requested him to open the parcel. Smith hesitated, and endeavoured to dissipate Mr. White's suspicions by assurances that all was correct; but Mr. W. was not satisfied, and insisted on Smith either opening the hamper or taking it away. To this he answered, he dare not open the hamper; it contained nothing improper, but he would go and speak to his master, who was close by. He then went away, leaving the hamper in the counting-house. Mr. White directed Joseph Arnold, one of Messrs. Pickford's porters, to follow Smith, and he having traced the man into Mr. Bullivant's yard, returned and reported that the man's master, as he called him, was putting a horse to a spring-cart, and he was convinced they meant to be off. Mr. White instantly went there; Smith was not visible at the moment, and, addressing the old man that Smith had called master, Mr. W. told him that he must return to Messrs. Pickford's yard, and either open the hamper, or take it away; but getting no satisfactory reply, Mr. White hastened to Mr. Alderman Barber's, who lived in the immediate neighbourhood, and obtained the assistance of Jefferies, the constable; but on repairing to the place they found the men had escaped. Immediately on Mr. W. quitting him, the old man, or master, whose name is William Giles (at least that was the name on the cart), got into the vehicle, and would have driven off, but Arnold, who had been left in the yard, seized the bridle, and opposed his departure; Giles was in a rage at this, and got out of the cart, upon which Arnold seized him, leaving the horse and cart in the care of another porter. Giles now called out for help to one of Mr. Bullivant's men, named John Brooker, saying, 'Do you see how this man is using me? come and hold him while I go for a constable; he has no right to detain me here;' and he also appealed to Mr. Bullivant in the yard, who desired Arnold to let him go. Smith then made his appearance, and, along with Brooker, came to Giles's assistance, but Arnold would not let him go; upon which Giles, fearful of being detained, slipped out of his greatcoat, which he left in Arnold's hands, and being closely followed by Smith, the two made their escape over the little bridge and through Mr. Bullivant's house, and Arnold was prevented from following by Brooker, and also by the doors of Mr. Bullivant's house being closed against him. Almost immediately after, Jefferies and Mr. White arrived, when the cart and horse were removed to Messrs. Pickford's yard, and the hamper being immediately opened in the constable's presence, was found to contain the bodies of an aged woman and a little boy about three and a half years old; they were packed in straw, were doubled up in the smallest compass possible, the mouth of the woman being stuffed with straw, and that of the child with wool. By

depositum of him she so much loved, anxious to know that cruel hands had not borne him away; at her bidding, the grave was opened, but when she saw it empty, what pencil can pourtray her looks—

Whilst bursts of sorrow gush from either eye,
Fast falling down her now untasted cheek,
Prone on the open grave of the dear man,
She drops—

and would have fallen into it, to fill the vacant coffin with her body, if help had not been near. She was borne insensible to a house in Silverwood's-place, attended by her four weeping children, and it was some time before she was so much recovered as to be able to bear conveying home. One female has actually lost her reason since she heard of the removal of her husband, and is now in a truly deplorable and wretched state. Those who visited the grounds witnessed many grievous sights, many bitter tears, and many vengeful imprecations on the heads of those who for love of money had caused all this sorrow. In all cases, the grave clothes were left; in some the coffin lid was torn asunder, and the rosemary and sweet herbs were mixed with the earth. Many of the coffins that had been found empty were removed from the ground, to be reserved for another occasion. In one of the graves a large turn-screw of a particular description was found, in this shape T, having a cross piece at the top, which could be laid hold of by both hands, and gave great additional power; there can be no doubt this tool had been used to open the coffins, but had been lost in the darkness of the night. The oldest date yet found on the coffins that have been plundered is the 3rd of November last, and it is believed no grave has been despoiled where the interment took place prior to that date. It is supposed that the corpses have been all thrown over the walls; the people who live near state that they have frequently heard things thrown over in the night."

Smith was a tall man, and had lived in the town about two months. He had taken a house in Maiden-lane, which, from its proximity to the two burial grounds, was doubtless a very convenient place. He had two assistants, Giles and another, who lived at various public-houses, and took a stable at Mr. Bullivant's, Leen-side. Here they kept their horse and cart, and had frequently been seen to convey heavy packages to Loughborough, Derby, and other places, to be forwarded to London.

None of these men were apprehended, having all fled, no one knew where. Davis was thought to be implicated, but there was no evidence that could be substantiated against him. Popular vengeance, however, was so roused against him, that he was mobbed both here and at Arnold, and narrowly escaped with his life.

January 21.—Death of John Spray, Doctor of Music, who, for a period of 30 years, discharged the duties of vicar choral in both the cathedrals of the Irish metropolis. A handsome monu-

ment, in one of them, erected by his numerous admirers, states that their estimation of his virtues in private, and of his qualities in social life, was commensurate with their admiration of his talents as a musician, and his transcendent powers as a vocalist. To the one he was indebted for the highest honorary degree in his profession, to the other for the character he acquired and maintained that of the first tenor singer in the empire. Dr. Spray was a native of Basford, and was nearly related to the family of the Pearsons, of that place. His age was 59 years.

February 19.—The remains of Lady Carington, wife of Lord Carington, were deposited in a vault of St. Peter's church. Lord Carington, Earl Stanhope, Lord Granville, Somerset, the Hon. Robert Smith, and members of the junior branches of the family, were present.

April 2.—Execution of William Wells for highway robbery, the last malefactor hanged on Galloway hill. Wells was a stout-made man, with black hair, dark eyes, and a florid complexion. He was a native of Peterborough, and was brought up as a farmer's servant in that neighbourhood.

About six weeks before the perpetration of the crime for which he forfeited his life, Wells set out from home, along with his eldest son, to travel from fair to fair, with horses. At Falkingham, he parted with his son, and proceeded to Leicester, whence he came to Nottingham, on Saturday, the 3rd of March, leading a mare by a rope, without saddle or bridle, and put up at Mrs. Ward's, the Red Lion, Narrow-marsh. Here he remained several days, and contracted a bill of about 20s. On the first day of the fair, he was taking his horse from the stable, when the ostler asked him where he was going, not having paid his bill. He replied, he was going to sell it in the fair, and would then come back, and make a settlement. Instead, however, of so doing, he took the animal to the Wheat Sheaf, and put up there afresh, and in a short time afterwards went out and committed the robbery.

Proceeding along the Mansfield-road and into the Basford-lane, he overtook an aged man, named James Corden, who was returning to Basford from the fair. It was about half-past six in the evening of the 7th, and going up to his victim, he struck him several blows on the head with a stick, and then knelt upon him on the ground, and took from his person a watch, two guineas, and some silver. Mr. John Grocock and Mr. James Bramley happened to come up just in time to witness the conclusion of the attack, and immediately took Wells into custody. Upon being searched, with the exception of the money taken from Corden, he had only ten or twelve shillings upon him, and this being insufficient to enable him to leave the town, was probably the inducement for the commission of the deed. He was tried before Lord Chief Justice Best, on Friday, the 16th of the same month.

April 5.—to the great regret of many observers, the foundations of the first house in the Park were begun to be excavated, near to the favourite promenade known as the Bachelor's walk.

May.—In consequence of the serious losses to which the grocers of the town had been subjected in conveyance of their commodities from London by sea, one tradesman having lost £500 and another £300 within about three months, the principal houses formed themselves into a mutual insurance company, of which Messrs. Barber, Cheetham, Fox, Lomax, and Tollinton were the committee.

August 20.—A cricket match at Nottingham, between eleven of this town and eleven of Sheffield. The visitors scored 89 and 83; and the Nottingham men, 75 and 99, with nine wickets to go down.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Soars appointed Mayor; Mr. Samuel Holmes and Mr. Kirke Swann, Sheriffs.

November 7. Died, at his seat, Fredville, Kent, aged 61 years, John Plumptre, Esq. This gentleman was the descendant of a very ancient Nottingham family. His father represented the town in Parliament, in the Whig interest, from 1762 to 1774; but having married for his first wife a Kentish heiress (by whom he had no living issue), he became the proprietor of Fredville, which place in the latter part of his life he made his residence, relinquishing the fine old family mansion in Stoney-street.

1828. **February 18.** The Mayor and Corporation petitioned Parliament for the repeal of the Corporation and Test Acts. These, which were passed in the reign of Charles II., excluded all persons from holding offices of trust, honour, or emolument, civil or military, who should not declare their conformity to the Church of England, by taking the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, according to the rites of the Church.

On the 26th of the same month, Lord John Russell's motion for their repeal passed the House of Commons by a large majority, and the concurrence of the Lords speedily followed.

March. Workmen were engaged in lowering the hill leading into the Park, from the Castle Lodge. One of them struck his spade into a hole; and thus led to the discovery of an extensive subterranean passage, cut out of the rock: one extremity of it was found to communicate with an ancient but finely formed doorway, arched over with solid masonry; and the other led to a spiral staircase, and passed under the wall encompassing the Castle-yard.

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1828 the death of Edward Dawson, aged 78 years, whose body had been found in the canal, against the top lock. The jury brought in a verdict of "Found drowned."

"Ned Dawson," as he was familiarly called, was an eccentric, and amongst other whims had provided his own coffin. Being a staunch supporter of the Tory party, the interior of the coffin was painted "true blue." On ordinary occasions it served him for a cupboard, and having been used by him as such for nearly twenty years, had doubtless become well seasoned. On his birthday, he was in the habit of trying on his last suit, and would extend himself in the coffin to see if it still fitted. It then would be carried in state, on the shoulders of several of his associates, well lined with substantial viands, Ned himself following as chief mourner, and carrying an enormous pitcher of ale.

The blue-lined coffin holds his dust, now dead.

In which the living Dawson kept his bread.

September 22.—The return cricket match with Sheffield was played at Darnall, when Nottingham scored 99 and 83, Sheffield 96 and 88, with seven wickets to fall.

September 23.—Death of Mr. Richard Parkes Bonnington, son of our former townsman, Mr. Richard Bonnington. He was born at Arnold, October, 1801, and at the early age of three years discovered a very extraordinary attachment to the fine arts, which was principally evinced by his sketching almost every object that presented itself to his observation. At the age of 15 years, he was taken by his parents to Paris, and obtained permission to study drawing in the Louvre, where he displayed astonishing skill. Thence, he became a student at the Institute, and also drew at the celebrated atelier of M. Le Baron Gros. Subsequently he went to Italy, but having been seized with consumption, returned, and died in London.

As an artist, Mr. Bonnington's works stand at the highest pinnacle of local fame. His study from the figure was exceedingly good; but amidst the diversity of his unbounded talents, marine pieces were his favourites and *chefs d'œuvre*. His mode of preparing for a picture was, after making an elaborate sketch for the outline and detail, to study the local colour most accurately; and he never forgot to catch the peculiarities of the various groups of figures that frequented the spot selected for his pencil. It is unnecessary to particularise his productions: their reputation is European. He was indeed, a child of nature; and his acute and sensitive temperament too soon wore out the mortal mansion in which its exhausting operations were performed—as in the alembic of the chemist, which throws off the inestimable product, but perishes itself in the devouring flame.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman C. L. Morley appointed Mayor; Mr. Nathaniel Barnsdall, junr., and Mr. Henry Homer, Sheriffs.

the death of Edward Dawson, aged 75 years, whose body had been found in the canal, against the top lock. The jury brought in a verdict of "Found drowned."

1829.

"Edward Dawson," as he was usually called, was an excellent

1829

January 22.—Death of the Rev. James Jacks, aged 34 years, pastor of the Independent church, Zion chapel, Fletcher-gate, to which office he was ordained in 1824. His decease was remarkably sudden. The day before he was as well as usual, and in the evening walked over to Lenton, where he preached in his usual fervent and impassioned manner. Afterwards, he went to Mr. Haslam's, of that place, where he ate a hearty supper, was particularly cheerful and lively, read and expounded a chapter for more than an hour, and then retired to rest. He was, however, taken unwell, and died early the next morning, leaving a widow and six children.

Mr. Jack's remains were deposited, on the 29th, in a vault in Zion chapel, attended there by the Rev. R. Allott (who conducted the service), the Rev. J. Jarman, the Rev. J. Gilbert, and the Rev. R. Allott, junr.

January 27.—Death of Charles Pennington, M.D., of Castle-gate, aged 71 years. An extensive practice in Nottingham and the neighbourhood for more than 40 years, during 17 of which he was sole physician to the Lunatic Asylum, sufficiently indicates the estimation in which he was held. His remains were interred at Bulwell.

January. The disclosure of the atrocities committed by Burke and Hare, at Edinburgh, who, it will be remembered, were connected with the murder by suffocation of thirty or forty persons, for the sake of the money arising from the sale of their bodies for the purposes of dissection, so horrified the public mind, that in Nottingham and elsewhere, timid people dared not to venture out after dark, and all sorts of alarming reports were in circulation. Nothing scarcely was talked of, but rumours of pitch-plasters being placed on people's mouths, and of others being missing and *burked*. The magistrates issued a notice, declaring that there was no foundation for the alarm, and in a few days public confidence was restored.

March 13.—Mr. Dunn held an inquest upon the body of Charles Gear, aged 23 years, who had destroyed himself by blowing his brains out with a pistol, at the house of his master, Mr. Richard Watts, butcher, Warser-gate. The act was a most deliberate one, and the jury returned a verdict of *felo de se*. This was the first such verdict in Nottingham since the repeal of the Act enjoining burial at "four lane ends." The funeral took place at half-past eleven the same night, in St. Peter's churchyard. There were no religious rites, and but few persons were present.

April 13.—An extensive calamity occurred this evening, by the sudden descent of an immense mass of rock into Narrow-marsh.

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For the information of those unacquainted with the locality, some description may be necessary. The bases of the houses on the south side of the High-pavement are from ten to twenty yards above the level of the Marsh, the houses on the north side of which are immediately under a precipitous cliff. That part of the High-pavement opposite St. Mary's church, and immediately east of the County Gaol, is the highest part of this perpendicular range of sandstone. Next to the prison was the warehouse of Mr. Cox, built to the extremity of the cliff; the houses then occupied by Mr. Joseph Pearson and Mr. T. C. Smith stood some yards from the edge, but with land between occupied as gardens, and beyond them were premises belonging to Mr. Barrows, which also projected to the edge of the cliff. The gardens of Mr. Pearson and of Mr. Smith extended to the very edge; and an immensely high rock and wall on brick piers might be seen from Narrow-marsh, towering several yards above the tops of the houses; and a small summer-house hanging over, indicated that the level of the gardens was at least fifty feet above that of the street, realizing the fearful, without any of the pleasing, ideas which might be connected with the hanging gardens of Babylon.

For some days apprehensions had been entertained as to the security of this rock and wall, large and frightful cracks having been observed. No serious alarm, however, was entertained until Sunday, the 12th, when several of the inhabitants of the Marsh began to move their furniture, and at the time of the avalanche, twenty minutes to eight in the evening of the following day, nearly everything had been removed from the tenements underneath, excepting from that of a man named Wright, who persisted that there was no danger. When the rock gave way, that part in front of Mr. Pearson's house descended first, and was followed in a few seconds by many hundred tons of soil, rock, brick, and stone, crushing the five houses beneath to the ground, and precipitating into the street a considerable part of the ruins.

The report of the fall, and the supposition that in so very populous a neighbourhood lives must inevitably have been lost, caused immense excitement. Several of the magistrates, with a strong body of constables, were quickly on the spot, and exertions were at once put forth to ascertain the extent of the calamity. Persons with lights were first employed in extricating a youth, whose cries for assistance were heard from amongst the ruins. He proved to be an apprentice of Mr. Ward, shoemaker, Bridle-smith-gate, who happened to be passing, and was covered by the ruins of the house adjoining the Loggerheads. After nearly an hour's exertion, he was found to be but slightly injured, a large beam having so fallen as to shield him. Men were employed all night in clearing away the *debris* which choked up the street, and by morning it was ascertained that no persons were missing, and that the injury was entirely confined to property. There were, however, several narrow escapes. A boy near the side

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lost his cap and shoe in the descending mass, but sustained no hurt. Five or ten minutes previously, a person named Slack went into Wright's house, where he worked, to fetch away his materials. Mrs. Wright, who was within, treated his apprehensions slightly, ridiculing the idea of the house falling. He, however, proceeded up two pair of stairs, accompanied by his wife (leaving Mrs. Wright in the houseplace), into the workshop, and about the same time a young woman with a child left the house, Mr. Wright having gone out a few minutes before. Slack was fully aware of the danger, and hastily put his silk into his wife's apron, the gloves he had made and some small tools into his hat, and had just taken his fingering-machine off the frame, and laid it on the seat-board, when the first roll of the falling mass was heard. The first impulse was to fly to the window, and to exclaim, "Oh, Sarah, we're lost!" What succeeded was the work of much less time than is occupied in the recital. Mrs. Slack hurried down stairs, but the falling earth and dust so completely darkened the staircase, that she had to feel her way. Hopeless almost of escape, she called on her husband to follow, but the shop-door had closed after her, and on his trying to open it, it was immovable. The pressure on the house had caused the door-head to sink. He seized a towel-roller fixed behind it, and, by a desperate effort, tore it open. Being better acquainted with the premises than his wife, two jumps brought him down the flights of stairs into the houseplace. Here he found that the same was the position of the street-door, it being also fast. Mrs. Wright, on the first alarm, had tried it, and found it immovable. With presence of mind, she threw open the window and jumped out. Mrs. Slack, holding her apron full of silk with her teeth, jumped after, and carried the casement with her. Sarah Raynor, a neighbour, who had entered the house while they were upstairs, succeeded her, and Slack also leapt through the same aperture. When in the street, the bricks fell at his heels, and he had scarcely time to make his escape ere the whole premises came down. Seven frames and the whole of the furniture were broken to bits. The five houses thus destroyed were contiguous to the Loggerheads public-house.

The principal mass that fell was estimated by a careful admeasurement to consist of from a thousand to fourteen hundred cubic yards of material, and to weigh about fourteen hundred tons. The main crack or fissure was very nearly perpendicular, and the mass of nearly a uniform thickness, being seven or eight feet from back to front.

Fears were entertained that other parts of the cliff would give way in like manner, especially as the rock immediately behind the Loggerheads had sunk very perceptibly. Adequate precautions were however taken; the Marsh was stopped by barriers being placed across it; the inhabitants of the dangerous parts were obliged to abandon their dwellings; and many

1829 labourers were employed in removing the rock wherever it presented an appearance of insecurity.

April.—The Leen in Canal-street, hitherto an open stream, was arched over. This was a great sanitary improvement.

May 10.—About half-past two, this (Sunday) morning, Mr. Samuel Eyre, of the White Swan public-house, Sneinton Hermitage, was alarmed by the fall of about half a ton of earth through the roof of the back part of his house, into a room adjoining the one in which he slept. On entering the apartment he immediately ascertained the cause, but did not then anticipate anything further. He, however, proceeded to the next house, occupied by Mr. Flinders, whom he found already up, searching every room, under the impression that burglars were on the premises, having been awakened by the noise, and by the barking of their dog.

The rock under which these houses were situated may be regarded as a continuation of the cliffy range on which the Castle and what a tourist has designated "the upper town" is built. Behind them was the greatest elevation of the part known as "the Hermitage," it being about forty feet above the level of the Meadows. Though the cliff hung over the houses in some measure, no danger had ever been apprehended, as there was no weight of soil to render it unstable.

A short time previous to Mr. Eyre's going to Mr. Flinders's, the latter had been awakened by the loud barking of a little dog in the house belonging to him, and had got up under the impression that thieves were attempting to break into his premises. He heard a fall of soil, and fancied they were forcing their way at the back part of the house; upon which he went down stairs, and taking up the tongs proceeded out of the house towards the place where the earth had fallen. Here he found a large quantity of loose soil, which tended to confirm him in his conjecture, that some depredators were treading upon the edge of the cliff, and trying to effect a descent. Under this impression, he immediately returned into the house, and alarmed his family, consisting of his wife and three sons, grown-up young men. The whole five were waiting the issue, the dog running up and down stairs, howling in a most piteous manner, when Mr. Eyre came and warned them of their danger. One of the sons ran into a room, and seized as many clothes as he could, and they immediately ran out of the house. They had scarcely got out of reach, when turning to look at the house, they saw the whole overwhelmed by several hundred tons of rock falling upon it. The brewhouse and small outhouses, and the back part of the White Swan, as well as Mr. Flinders's house, were completely destroyed. The noise of the rock giving way was like the approach of thunder, and the distance of time from the first warning to the fall was about one hour. A mark, recording the date, may still be seen on the rock at the back of the White Swan.

An extended examination of the cliff was subsequently made,

and all the projecting parts carefully cut off. In the course of this undertaking, another descent was very near inflicting irreparable injury. As the labourers were at work, on the 8th of July, a large piece of rock, two or three tons weight, upon which one of them was standing, suddenly gave way, the man having barely sufficient time to spring off. The mass fell upon the roof of the back part of the Manvers' Arms, and broke through the upper story completely down to the ground-floor, where the landlady then was. Though covered with the rubbish and excessively alarmed, she was extricated without sustaining any serious injury.

June.—Milton-street and North-street were lowered and levelled. Human remains in quantities were found at the depth of two or three feet beneath the surface. Concurrently with this, the whole of the buildings on the west-side of Milton-street were removed, and the entrance to the town from the north materially improved.

June 5.—Public dinner at the Exchange Hall, to commemorate the achievement of Roman Catholic emancipation. Lord Randcliffe presided, and the principal speakers were W. B. Martin, Esq., Captain George Martin, R.N., the Rev. Mr. Yver, Dr. Pigot, Mr. Hitchins, and Mr. Wm. Taylor.

July 27.—Cricket match at Nottingham, between eleven of this town and eleven of Leicester. The home team scored 101 and 146, and the Leicester team 108 and 66, Nottingham thus thus winning by 73 runs.

August 10.—Edwd. Revill, aged 60 years, and Peter Greasley, aged 21 years, were charged at the Town Hall, before Lord Chief Justice Tentarden, with having shot at William Middap, with intent to murder him; and Sarah Revill, aged 57 years, wife of the above, and Ann Sporton, *alias* Greasley, aged 41 years, with aiding and abetting, &c.

This unfortunate affair arose from a disputed right of property. Thos. Hawksley, Esq., the Jacobite Mayor of Nottingham in 1715, was possessed of considerable wealth. His daughter married a Mr. John Greasley, who inherited his estates, part of which consisted of certain houses on the west side of Park-row, and an extensive property at New Radford, not then built upon, but partly occupied as an asparagus garden, by Mr. David Drake, near to where now stands the Pelican tavern.

Mrs. Greasley, some time before her death, took her own niece, a Sarah Hawksley, into her domestic service. This Sarah Hawksley, who was the daughter of Mrs. Greasley's brother, continued to reside with her uncle after her aunt's decease, and became pregnant by him, though he was about eighty years of age and she but eighteen. On the 16th of August, 1769, Mr. Keyworth, surgeon, was called in, and found Miss Hawksley in labour. An attempt was made to marry them, but Dr. Berdsmore, vicar of St. Mary's, refused, because of the affinity of the parties.

1829 Her delivery of a girl took place the same evening. A few days subsequently, the ill assorted couple were married at Gretna Green, but the journey had such an ill effect on the old man, that it brought on inflammation and death, not however before he had made a will, leaving his wife and daughter the bulk of his property.

Mrs. Greasley entered into possession of the estates, and in April, 1770, married Mr. George Nelson, of Great Limber, Lincolnshire, in the name of Sarah Hawksley, otherwise Greasley. Of this marriage there were several children.

Elizabeth Greasley, or Hawksley, the illegitimate issue of the former connection, came of age in 1790, and in Easter term, 1791, two "recoveries" were suffered, which barred the claim of Peter, William, and John Greasley, the "remainder men" under the old gentleman's will. In 1792, she entered into the nuptial state with the Rev. Thomas Evans, of Chipping Norton, but had no surviving issue. Her mother died in 1802, and Mr. Nelson four years subsequently, leaving children who succeeded to their property.

John and William Greasley, two of the devisees in remainder, having died without children, Peter, the other remainder man, seeing that Mrs. Nelson and her daughter were dead, began to inquire after the property, but being poor, was unable to bring his claim to an issue for some years. His pretensions, however, appearing plausible to those uninitiated in the mysteries of law, various parties were induced to advance sums of money, under an engagement on his part to repay them with great additions. The matter came into Court at our Lent Assizes, 1809, when Greasley, the plaintiff, was non-suited, but with liberty to move in the next term that the verdict be set aside. Accordingly, a rule *nisi* was obtained, but the defendant showing cause against it, it was afterwards discharged.

The plaintiff died soon after this decision, leaving an only son, also named Peter. In his will, he left his supposed estate to his wife, until his son was of age. The widow marrying Edward Revill, he considered himself entitled to the disputed estates, and on several occasions took possession of the tenements in Park-row, pulling down the pales and cutting up the floors, and conducting himself very strangely. In each case an action of ejectment was brought against him, and he was ousted and put in prison for the costs. Once he lay in gaol a long time, and was released at last by the benevolent Mrs. Fry, who, while on a visit in Nottingham, went over the prison, and hearing the captive's tale, paid his fine and set him at liberty.

Undaunted by his ill success, and still considering that the property was his wife's, Revill not only again took possession of one of the houses, demolishing the windows and floors and everything he could, but he also found parties simple enough to furnish him with means to defend another action. The hearing

came on before Mr. Baron Hullock, at the Lent Assizes in 1824. Mr. Nelson, the plaintiff, having proved possession for more than twenty years, the jury, at the instance of the judge, returned a verdict in his favour. Revill, then, to avoid another imprisonment, gave up possession of the house.

In June, 1829, when Peter Greasley, the son, attained his majority, the parties resolved to make a renewed effort for the recovery of their imagined rights. They employed a lawyer, and sent a letter to Mr. Nelson, offering to submit the matter to arbitration; but not receiving an answer, they took the opportunity of one of the three houses in Park-row being untenanted, to again recover its possession. Mr. Nelson's attorney immediately entered an action of ejectment, in the Mayor and Sheriff's court, and a writ was issued on the 2nd of July. William Gibson, sergeant-at-mace, Thomas Harrison, George Billings, and other constables, went to execute it, accompanied by Mr. Skidmore, the attorney; but being resisted and violently threatened, they had to withdraw. Returning with an increased force, of which Middap formed part, the writ was read, and entrance unsuccessfully demanded. Force was immediately applied to break open the door. They were assailed, however, by a shower of bricks and tiles from an upper window, and as soon as the leverage of the crowbar had partially opened the door, Revill discharged the contents of a pistol at Middap, who was using the "crow," and wounded him in the neck. It is surprising that he was not killed, for when the surgeon a few days after succeeded in extracting the bullet, it was found that it had traversed from one side of the neck to the other. A large mob of people collected, and after the lapse of several hours, a number of armed constables succeeded in arresting the whole four. Middap slowly recovered. These facts being brought in evidence against them, they were all four found guilty, and sentenced to be executed; but public commiseration was very powerfully aroused, and Mr. Nelson and his attorney immediately waited upon Lord Tenterden at his lodgings, and implored him to save the lives of the offenders. Their intercession so far prevailed, that his lordship consented to reprove the women, but left the men for execution. This, however, was not sufficiently satisfactory, and a memorial, very numerous and respectfully signed, was presented to the judge, at Leicester, by Mr. Payne and Mr. C. N. Wright, and this led to a commutation of the sentence into transportation for life.

September 7.—A cricket match was played at Nottingham, between eleven of our townsmen and eleven of Sheffield. Nottingham scored 157 and 56, Sheffield 39 and 97; the home team thus winning by 77 runs.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman O. T. Oldknow appointed Mayor; Mr. William Cartledge and Mr. R. Davison, Sheriffs.

1830.

1830 *February 1.*—At a public meeting, held in the Exchange Hall, the Mayor in the chair, “to consider of the present distressed state of the poor, with a view to their relief,” it was resolved that a subscription be entered into. The sum of about £2,500 was contributed.

March 1.—About eleven at night, the rock at the back of the Lancasterian school, Derby-road, gave way, and forced in the north wall. So complete was the demolition of that side of the building, that a considerable part of the roof fell in, and the desks and forms were buried in the ruins.

During the same week, another descent of rock and soil took place near the Loggerheads, in Narrow-marsh; and a ponderous mass of rock fell at the west end of the Druids’ caves in the Park.

May 26.—The last public whipping in Nottingham.

July.—The Blackmoor’s Head inn and posting-house, High-street, the property of the Duke of Newcastle, partially pulled down, and the whole premises converted into shops.

July.—General election, consequent on the demise of George IV. Both the late members retired from the electoral field; Mr. Birch on the ground of increasing years and infirmities, and Lord Ranelagh from a disinclination to incur further expense. Mr. Denman and General Sir Ronald Crawford Ferguson, succeeded them, as the Reform candidates; and Lewis Allsopp Lowdham, Esq., issued an address on the Tory interest, but not meeting with the support anticipated, withdrew. In this posture of affairs, Mr. T. Bailey, wine merchant, Wheeler-gate, professing himself disgusted that “the representation of our populous and enlightened town should be reduced to the chances of a scramble amongst adventurers,” chivalrously came to the rescue. In an address to the electors, in which he advanced his own pretensions, he announced himself to be “the unsparing censor of profligate or corrupt expenditure in the administration of public affairs;” an advocate of “Reform in the Commons’ House of Parliament;” and an opponent of slavery, Corporation abuses, &c. “To accomplish the object so near my heart, I ask,” he added, “but the suffrage of honourable and independent minded electors—of honest and unbought voters.”

The nomination took place on the 30th. The Exchange Hall was densely crowded, and the excitement fully as great as usual. Thomas Denman, Esq., was nominated by Mr. T. Wakefield and Mr. Abijah Bond; Sir R. C. Ferguson, by Lord Ranelagh and Mr. A. T. Fellows; and Mr. Bailey, by Mr. Robert Carver and Mr. T. H. Smith. The show of hands was about equal, but was pronounced to be in favour of the former gentlemen. A poll demanded for Mr. Bailey, six votes were tak

succeeded. The poll re-opened on Saturday, and closed on Monday, as follows:—Denman, 1206; Ferguson, 1180; Bailey, 226. 1830

A new Act for regulating the taking of the poll in boroughs was brought into operation at this election. Hitherto, in the heat of a contest, it had required great exertion to get up to the polling-place, and the only avenue of access would sometimes be occupied by perhaps a hundred voters of the same party, who would choke it up as early as three or four o'clock in the morning, and have to remain waiting very inconveniently, a number of hours. The new Act remedied the evil, by providing for several polling places instead of one.

August 6.—Admiral Sotheron and the Hon. John Savile Lumley re-elected for the county.

August.—Mr. R. Brierley succeeded Mr. Cross as County Gaoler.

August 23.—A very numerous public meeting was held at the Exchange, the Mayor in the chair, "for the purpose of expressing the admiration of the inhabitants of Nottingham, of the firmness and moderation displayed by the French people, in the recent struggle for, and triumph of constitutional liberty in France." The speakers were Colonel Wildman, J. G. C. Gardiner, Esq., Mr. T. Wakefield, Dr. Pigot, Mr. R. Hopper, Mr. M. H. Barker, Mr. W. Felkin, Mr. R. Goodacre, Mr. J. Perry, and T. Denman, Esq., M.P. It was agreed that a subscription be raised for the relief of the families of the brave men who fell in achieving the Revolution; and that an address should be presented in Paris, by a deputation.

Accordingly, on the 13th of September, the deputies, Messrs W. Taylor, R. Booker, and B. Goodhead, arrived on the banks of the Seine, bearing with them the sum of 5,000 francs, contributed in Nottingham, for which they received an acknowledgment signed by M. Jacques Lafitte, President of the Chamber of Deputies. They were hospitably entertained, and were favoured with interviews with General Lafayette, Count de la Borde, and M. Odillon Barrot.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman W. Wilson appointed Mayor; Mr. T. Allen and Mr. R. G. Barber, Sheriffs.

November 9.—The Radical Reformers of the neighbourhood assembled to celebrate the progress of their principles, by a dinner in the Exchange Hall. Lord Raneliffe presided, and Mr. C. Wilkins, barrister, was the principal speaker.

November 29.—Sir Thomas Denman, Knt., having accepted the office of his Majesty's Attorney-General, and thereby vacated his seat in Parliament, was this day again re-elected. He was nominated by Lord Raneliffe and Mr. T. Wakefield, and was returned without opposition.

1831.

1831

January 25.—A serious fire broke out about ten at night, in the warehouse and candlehouse of Mr. Alderman Barber, situate at the Iron-gate wharf, upon the canal side, near the London-road. The candles, tallow, &c., with which the place was stored, increased the flames to a tremendous extent before the arrival of the engines, and it was soon apparent that no exertion could put them out until the material that fed them was exhausted. The roof fell, in detached portions at intervals, and the last portion of it descended at a quarter to eleven. The corn warehouse of Mr. Roworth, and Mr. Wright's mill, in the immediate neighbourhood, were in imminent danger, and their preservation was entirely attributable to the bold and indefatigable exertions of the firemen. In the height of the conflagration, the heat, even at a great distance, was excessive; and the reflection of the light in the sky was astonishingly powerful. Several thousand spectators assembled in the Meadows and on the bridges, and in preserving order the civil force was assisted by a troop of the 15th Hussars.

February 9.—A sudden breaking up of the frost occasioned a great flood. The Meadows were, as usual, very extensively inundated. Contrasting this with other remarkable floods since 1804, we find that that of January 28th, 1809, was five inches higher; that on February 10th, 1814, was seven inches higher; that on December 26th, 1821, was two inches lower; and that on October 13th, 1824, nine inches higher.

March 9.—An immense public meeting was held at the Exchange, to gain admission into which hundreds struggled ineffectually, for the purpose of presenting an address to the King, and a petition to the House of Commons, in support of the Ministerial measure of Parliamentary Reform. The Mayor presided, and the proceedings, which were unanimous, were conducted by Colonel Wildman, W. F. N. Norton, Esq., W. B. Martin, Esq., Aldermen Barber and Oldknow, Mr. T. Wakefield, and other gentlemen of the Reform interest.

March 14.—Joanna Ledwich, a young woman under sentence of transportation for participating in a robbery near Newark, made a most daring escape from the County Gaol. She effected her purpose by cutting up a sheet belonging to her bed, which she tied to an old clothes line, and securing one end to the stanchion of a window, threw the whole over the outer wall, and proceeded to descend into Narrow-marsh, a depth of about seventy feet. After sliding a short distance, the cordage broke, and the adventurous woman had a terrible fall into the yard beneath. She was much bruised, but was not seriously injured; and surprising as it may seem, though her descent was observed by several, yet, by the assistance of a friend, she succeeded in making good her escape.

April 14.—At a political banquet in the Exchange Hall, Mr. Thomas Wakefield in the chair, an elegant silver tureen, weighing 16lb., was presented to Lord Ranccliffe, as a mark of esteem from the Reformers of Nottingham.

April 29.—The King having, at the recommendation of his Ministers, dissolved Parliament with a view of appealing to the country on the great question of Reform, an amazing concourse of people assembled in the Market-place, with banners, flags, and bands of music, and set out in procession to welcome their late members, on presenting themselves for re-election. Having met them on the London-road, the procession returned with Sir Thos. Denman and General Ferguson in an open carriage, drawn by six beautiful greys, with three outriders clothed in purple and yellow. Never was so large a procession seen in Nottingham before; and so universally had the people yielded, in the enthusiasm of the times, to the Reform leaven, that among the fifty or sixty large flags that accompanied it, some were blue, having in former days done service for the opposite party.

On assembling in the Exchange Hall, Sir Thomas Denman was nominated by F. Hart, Esq., and Mr. Alderman Barber; and General Ferguson by Mr. Alderman Oldknow and Mr. T. Wakefield. There was no opposition, and they were declared duly elected.

May.—The Park-side Reservoir of the newly formed Water-works Company was completed and filled with water.

May 5.—Election for the county. J. S. Lumley, Esq. (Reformer), was nominated by Colonel Wildman and J. G. Cooper Gardiner, Esq.; and J. E. Denison, Esq. (Reformer), by Sir Rd. Sutton, and H. G. Knight, Esq. No opposition was made to their return.

June.—Demolition of Thurland Hall.

June 6.—A public meeting was held in the Town Hall, Henry Smith, Esq., in the chair, at which it was resolved to raise a subscription in behalf of the famishing peasantry in some districts of Ireland. The sum raised was between six and seven hundred pounds.

August 24.—Execution of William Reynolds, aged 19 years, and William Marshall, of the same age, for having committed a rape.

On the night of Saturday, the 16th of April, between eleven and twelve o'clock, a young woman, named Mary Ann Lord, aged 22 years, was forcibly seized by Reynolds, near the end of Wood-street (where she resided), and dragged into the neighbouring close, near the Lord Ranccliffe public-house. Here, against her will, he violated her, and, according to the woman's statement, was followed by Marshall and two others, one of whom was named John Spowage. She called loudly for assistance, but owing to the questionable character of the neighbourhood, and the lateness of the hour, none came until too late. After the completion of the

1831 crime, they threatened to throw her down a well in Longhedge-lane, if she continued her noise, and might have done so had not some persons come up. The aggressors then took to their heels, but were shortly afterwards apprehended, and being tried on the 21st of July, before Sir J. Littledale, Marshall and Reynolds were capitally convicted, and Spowage sentenced to transportation for life.

The utmost efforts were put forth to save their lives. The judge was in the first place followed to Derby by an uncle of Marshall's, who was accompanied by the prosecutrix and her father, but he could not be prevailed upon even to grant an audience. His lordship was likewise appealed to by petition, at Leicester, but with no better success. The next procedure was to follow the judge to Warwick; and here an affidavit was presented, sworn to by a person named Fairburn. This individual stated that though he was not called at the trial, he saw the whole affair on the night in question; that he witnessed the acts of the parties in the field; that the female was a consenting party, and did not cry out, or he should have heard her; and that he mentioned what he had seen, to certain parties he named, the very next day. This affidavit caused the judge to send over a messenger, with a respite for fourteen days, to give time for further investigation; but, after a searching inquiry, he professed his inability to see any reason why the law should not take its course. The Secretary of State was next appealed to, through the medium of General Ferguson, but with no better success; and every channel of hope was dried up.

In the afternoon before the morning of execution, they were taken from the Town Gaol to the House of Correction. The new drop was in process of formation, and as they passed, they gazed at it with evident curiosity. They were executed at eleven o'clock, in the presence of about fifteen thousand spectators.

September 8.—Coronation of William IV. The Mayor and Corporation attended Divine service in the morning, at St. Mary's church, along with various lodges of Odd Fellows and Druids. At one o'clock, the 15th Hussars, under the command of Major Walter Scott, discharged a *feu de joie* in the Market-place; and the gold cup being brought out, the Mayor drank to the health of his Majesty, and to his long and happy reign, which was pledged by the officers of the regiment and the gentlemen present. The children of the various Sabbath schools were treated in the afternoon with tea and plum-cake. A public dinner was provided in the Exchange Hall, at five o'clock; and sheep roasting was carried on in various parts of the town.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Barber appointed Mayor; Mr. John Harrison and Mr. T. Guilford, Sheriffs.

October.—The Reform Bill was at this time greatly agitating the public mind. It was the talk by day and dream by night of the great bulk of the people; and in the few weeks past all

tidings respecting it had been received with the most enthusiastic interest. 1831

The Michaelmas or Goose fair had attracted to the town an unusually large number of strangers, amongst whom were a considerable body of evil disposed persons. These characters, ripe for mischief, needed but a colourable pretence to induce the ignorant and unreflecting of the Reformers to join them in the commission of acts of devastation and plunder; and unfortunately, the obstinacy of the House of Lords too soon gave them the alluring incentive.

Pickford's van arrived in the town at half-past eight in the evening of Saturday, the 8th, with the intelligence that the Bill had been rejected in the Lords. In little more than an hour, no less than nineteen requisitions from different parties, most of them numerous and respectably signed, were forwarded to the Mayor, calling upon him to convene a public meeting on the subject. On the morning of Sunday, hundreds of people assembled in front of the Post Office, in High-street, and before the White Lion hotel, awaiting the arrival of the mail. On the coach driving up, either a passenger or the guard said that "in London the Reformers were beating to arms," and the announcement was received with loud cheers. At this moment, while excitement was high, Mr. Hedderley, the druggist, was standing at his own door, opposite the hotel, and was pointed out as an anti-Reformer. Some of the upstairs windows of his house were immediately broken. About the same time, Dr. Manson, while passing in his gig through Pelham-street, was struck with a missile, and it became apparent that the irritation was gaining strength. Towards the close of the afternoon, the excitement still further increased, and as soon as darkness came on, became ungovernable. Stones and brickbats were being thrown at windows in various directions. The Mayor hastened to the scene of action, and whilst exhorting the throng to refrain from acts of violence, was knocked down by a severe blow on the neck, and much injured. The Riot Act was read, and the constables exerted themselves to seize the offenders, but without avail, as it was impossible to discover from what hands the stones were hurled; but each crash of the glass produced a loud shout, which was not infrequently echoed by those who were idle spectators, yet who, in the excitement of the moment, gave way to the ebullition of their feelings. Besides this breaking of windows, direct attacks were made in the course of the night upon the property of parties supposed to be anti-Reformers. Mr. C. N. Wright's shop, on the Long-row, was thus assailed, the front completely battered in, and the books, stationery, &c., thrown into the street. The houses of Mr. Bradshaw, wharfinger, Leen-side; Mr. Sharp, miller and baker, Mansfield-road; Mr. North, cheesemonger, Charlotte-street; Mr. Ward, druggist, Bridlesmith-gate; Dr. Manson, Stoney-street; Mr. Cooke, grocer, Chapel-bar; Mr. Lowe, hosier, Pilcher-gate; and the *Journal*

1831 office, Long-row, were visited, and outrages committed. The Mayor and magistrates, the constables, and the 15th Hussars, displayed the utmost activity, but in vain. Nor could the exhortations of Mr. Alderman Oldknow, nor the eloquence of Mr. Wilkins, the barrister, both of whom repeatedly attempted to address the ever-shifting mob, in the slightest degree appease its ungovernable rage.

The next day, Monday, witnessed a renewal of the disturbances, though in the morning everything appeared so peaceable that the Mayor did not think it expedient to interdict the assembling of the public meeting he had convened, in compliance with the numerous requisitions. Before the hour of meeting, eleven o'clock, the Market-place was literally filled with people. The speakers stationed themselves in a waggon in the centre of the spacious area. The Mayor took the chair, and the resolutions, which were calm and temperate, were moved and seconded by Lord Raneliffe, W. F. N. Norton, Esq., Mr. Alderman Oldknow, Mr. T. Wakefield, Mr. T. Bailey, Dr. Pigot, T. Close, Esq., Mr. R. Hopper, and Mr. W. P. Smith. The speeches were listened to with attention; but the exhortations to peace and quietness, though acceded to by those who might really be termed the men of Nottingham, had but little influence over an organized gang, ripe for every mischief. This gang consisted of all the low and bad characters of the neighbourhood—the pickpockets who had been exerting their talents during the fair, and the vile and worthless of every description, who were staying in the town under the hope of picking up some plunder at the races.* The townspeople, after the meeting, dispersed towards their own houses, but the mob repaired to Mr. Sharpe's mill, on the Forest, the sails of which they cut to pieces, injured the machinery, and scattered all the flour and corn they could find; and but for the prompt arrival of a party of Hussars, the whole mill would have been demolished. During the day, the windows of Mr. Peter Loveitt, in York-street; Mr. Smith, baker, and Prickard, grocer, Hockley; Mr. Clifton, an officer on half-pay, on Mansfield-road; Mr. Thomas Berry, constable, Chesterfield-street; and Mr. Webster, constable, Derby-road, were broken, and considerable injury effected.

Disturbances at Derby had drawn off part of the troops from the Barracks, so that Colonel Thackwell had but a small disposable force; but this was divided into separate detachments, each one having a magistrate at its head, which, on the least alarm, instantly hastened to the scene of action, and for about two hours, they were galloping in every direction. But the mob, in a strong body, had taken the direction of Sneinton, and turning up Notintone-place, tore down the iron pallisading in front of the houses, and many became speedily armed. "They then," says Mr. Barker, in his account of the riots, "proceeded towards

* The races had been appointed for the week after the fair; but in consequence of the disturbances, did not take place till the year following.

Colwick Hall, the seat of John Musters, Esq., which was soon entered, and a horrible scene of devastation ensued. Mr. Musters was absent, but the rioters ranged through every part of the house in search, vowing the most implacable vengeance. Mrs. Musters had been confined to her bed, but at the time of the attack, was sitting in the drawing-room with her daughter and Mademoiselle de Fey, a foreign lady, who was on a visit. They happily escaped to an adjoining shrubbery, and notwithstanding the rain poured down, they lay concealed under the foliage of some thick spreading laurel trees, till the rioters took their departure. The beautiful and valuable furniture of the Hall, some excellent paintings, in short whatever the mob could lay hands on, was destroyed. Ale, food, and wine were taken, and several became furiously intoxicated. Plate, jewellery, and wearing apparel were carried off, many of the rioters dressing themselves in what garments they could find, and putting their own clothes over them. A fire was kindled in one of the rooms, which would have soon reduced this edifice to a heap of ruins, but some of them thinking that a feather bed would accelerate the power of the destructive element, threw it upon the flames, and left it. The consequence was, that the fire was smothered."

Flushed with success, and full of desperate purposes, they quitted the spot, uttering wild shouts. They returned towards the town, and dividing by concert, part of them marched to the House of Correction, the doors of which they attempted to force in; but the prompt arrival of the military and magistrates frustrated their intentions. Lieut. Russell, of the recruiting service, with the sergeants, &c., under him, were posted to defend this position, and another party were sent to protect the Gas Works.

The magistrates during the afternoon had sworn in several hundreds of the respectable inhabitants of the town, as special constables, who were to assemble on the ringing of the Exchange bell. They were formed into divisions, and by their constant movements, preserved much private property from plunder. Whilst the magistrates were busy at the House of Correction with one division of the mob, another, about six hundred strong, proceeded down Wheeler-gate, where they broke some of the windows in Mr. Wood's house, but desisted on being informed that there was no one there hostile to them. They halted at the bottom of Park-street, and then went on to inflict a yet further and most indelible stain upon the annals of the town.

"A cry, 'to the Castle,'" says Mr. Hicklin, in his History of that edifice, "soon announced the next object of attack. Thither the rioters directed their course, and having extinguished all the gaslights between St. James's Church and the Riding School, they began to batter the gates of the old Castle Lodge. These stoutly withstood their attacks, till at length they succeeded in breaking a panel out of one of the doors. Three of the assailants crept through, for the purpose of unbarring the gates, while another

1831 party effected an entrance into the Castle-yard, by making a breach in the wall, nearly opposite the steps leading to Standard-hill. The gates being opened, a lighted candle was fetched from the Riding School yard, and about twenty of the rabble got together, shouting, with the utmost *sang froid*, no doubt in imitation of the showmen whom they had heard at the fair, 'Walk forward, positively the last night:' they then pulled down the white railings which fenced the Castle gardens, and ascended the hill to the building. A window near the north end of the terrace was broken, and six men entered the Castle through the aperture; they instantly proceeded to tear the tapestry off the walls, and to break the rails of the staircases. While engaged in these depredations, about forty of the mob joined them; the windows were speedily smashed, tables broken, and chandeliers torn down for weapons. About a dozen of the ringleaders then consulted on the best method of burning down this noble mansion: holes were soon made through the floors in different rooms, broken bannisters were lighted, and placed in the crevices; the tables were also fired, and owing to the dryness of the materials, flames speedily issued from the various apartments; and a little after seven o'clock in the evening, the wild shouts of the mob (about one hundred and fifty of whom were in the building when the fire broke out) proclaimed to the town the accomplishment of their diabolical outrage. The leaders in this act of incendiarism then proceeded to the lower basement, occupied by kitchens and servants' offices, and sought to accelerate the work of demolition, by kindling fires under the arches. A stable adjoining the wall running from the Lodge to the Park was also fired; and with a spirit worthy of barbarians of the darker ages, the architectural ornaments of the Castle were defaced; the beautiful equestrian statue of the founder was destroyed by a reckless scoundrel with a crowbar, and parts of the mutilated figure were carried off as trophies of this night's triumph of popular frenzy, while the busts over the windows were wantonly demolished. Parts of the tapestry were sold at 3s. per yard to bystanders, who paid for it on the spot; and as the flames increased in extent and fierceness, the progress of the devastating element was hailed with renewed yells; and more and more triumph swelled the cheers of the infuriate crowd.

"At this period, rain fell in heavy showers; and the principal rioters retired in groups from the scene of tumult and desolation. A detachment of Hussars, under the direction of Colonel Wildman and Mr. Norton, two county magistrates, the Castle being beyond the limits of the town magistracy, rode into the Castle-yard; but perceiving all efforts to save the building were too late, they soon returned into the town. Between the hours of nine and ten, the conflagration had reached its height; the town was comparatively free from tumult, and thousands thronged the Castle-yard, to gaze with feelings on the

dreadfully novel spectacle. Volumes of flame issued from all the windows of the building; the dun-coloured smoke rose mist-like in rolling masses, amongst the pelting rain; showers of sparks were falling in all directions; the roofs were dissolving in streams of molten lead; on the terraces and walls men might be descried by the light of the fire, hurrying to and fro, like restless spirits at some infernal incantation, while the blazing Castle glared on the atmosphere from its rocky steep, amidst the darkness of the night, as a tremendous sacrifice to the demon of anarchy and crime. About midnight the fire began to subside, and the following morning witnessed this once noble edifice a roofless shell, every part but the walls having been entirely consumed. The mutilated corpses of two children, drawn into danger by motives of curiosity, were found amongst the smoking ruins." 1831

In the course of the forenoon of Tuesday, the rioters re-assembled, some in the Market-place, and others in the Park; but they were principally strangers, drawn from the neighbouring villages, by the fire of the previous night. They formed on the Derby-road, with the intention of firing Mr. Lowe's silk mill at Beeston. At Lenton-terrace, near the Barracks, they tore down the iron railing, and armed themselves with the spikes. The Hussars immediately sallied forth, and dispersed them into the Park. Forming themselves again below the Sand-hills, they marched through Lenton in one regular body towards Beeston. In a short time Mr. Lowe's mill was in flames, and entirely destroyed. There was a great quantity of silk on the premises, very little of which was saved, and the whole damage was estimated by a jury, at the ensuing March Assizes, the building, engines, and machinery at £6,650, and the silk at £1,140. After regaling themselves at the expense of the publicans, the rioters, on their way back, called at the residence of M. Needham, Esq., which they cleared of food, ale, and wine, at the same time laying their hands upon any portable article, which they carried off, together with about £40 worth of plate. They next visited the house of John Wright, Esq., who gave them what money he had about him, and they took their way to the gates of Wollaton Park, near the junction of the Derby and Beeston roads. But here every preparation had been made. Colonel Hancox had garrisoned the Hall with a body of colliers, and several pieces of cannon, and the Wollaton Yeomanry were stationed near the entrance. The mob, however, attacked the gate, which was forced open; the Yeomanry immediately charged, and sixteen or seventeen prisoners were taken. The mob then retreated, and the Yeomanry soon afterwards escorted the prisoners to the Barracks, and delivered them to the keeping of the Hussars. A troop of Hussars, with Colonel Rolleston, met the mob on the Nottingham side of Lenton, and the Riot Act was again read. Near the Sir John Borlace Warren, the rioters ensconced themselves behind a wall in Chimley's close, which served as a breast-work; and from

1831 thence they threw stones and bricks at the Yeomanry as they approached, and several of them were much cut and bruised. The Yeomanry fired their pistols, but without effect, as the mob, as soon as they had thrown, covered themselves behind the wall. This skirmish occupied some time, and soon afterwards the Hussars guarded the prisoners into the town. Whilst crossing the Market-place, the throng pressed upon them, and turning into the Poultry, much abusive language was used, and stones were thrown. The officer who brought up the rear was greatly insulted, and struck by a stone, and finding the mob press upon him, he deliberately returned his sword to the scabbard, drew his pistol from the holster, and fired in the direction of High-street. The ball struck a man named Thomas Auckland,* in the chest, passed out at the shoulder, and then grazed the forehead of Joshua Hopkinson, of Arnold. The prisoners were lodged in the County Gaol, and the consequence of the firing produced a very sensible effect on the conduct of the mob.

The shops were closed during the whole of the day, and divisions of special constables were employed in incessantly clearing the streets: In the afternoon, the Mayor issued a proclamation, in which he required all the inhabitants "to close their doors, and keep themselves and their families within their respective houses, and close them for the night at five o'clock in the evening." This had a beneficial effect; and in conjunction with other means allayed the excitement. The military, in one or two instances, rode amongst and dispersed the crowds that were gathering in the Market-place. Strong patrols paraded through the town. All the numerous outlets on the Long-row and round the Shambles were barricaded with boards; and by seven o'clock the Market-place was as quiet as it generally is at midnight. The rioters collected in the Meadows, near the wooden-bridge leading from Sussex-street, and for nearly an hour, gangs of five or six were passing through Bridlesmith-gate, and down Drury-hill, to increase their numbers. About eight o'clock, Mr. Alderman Oldknow, with a party of Hussars, came down and went into the Meadows, as did also a strong body of special constables, but they did not come in contact with the rioters. The whole number of rioters in the Meadows at this time, could not exceed three hundred; these were formed into two divisions—a few had pistols, and the others were armed with iron rails, bludgeons, and stones. They were addressed by a tall man, in very mild, and even gentlemanly language, who pointed out to them the impossibility of effecting any enterprise. He said, "they scarcely knew each other, very few were armed, they had no influential leader, and it would be the height of madness to run the hazard of their lives without being able to effect their object; and he recommended them to disperse." There was some murmuring, and several

* Auckland was taken to the General Hospital, and after a long confinement, recovered. He had served many years in the 33rd Foot, and was severely
 † at Waterloo.

places in the neighbourhood mentioned, but it was evident the rioting was at an end. Some cried out, "What's the use of dispersing; we may as well die where we are, as go home and be starved." The parties, however, dispersed in the darkness of the night. Numbers went and lay under the haystacks, and some went towards the ferry; but in the morning bands of a dozen were seen dragging their weary bodies listlessly along the different roads towards the villages. 1831

Business was resumed on Wednesday, and no further cause for alarm was observable, excepting a few acts of incendiarism in the villages.

November 17.—Death of William Sherbrooke, Esq., many years chairman of the quarter sessions for this division of the county, aged 72 years. He was succeeded in the office by L. Rolleston, Esq.

The census returns of this year showed that in St. Mary's parish there were 8,637 houses; 18,549 male inhabitants, and 20,990 females. In St. Peter's, 1,097 houses; 2,418 males, and 2,802 females. In St. Nicholas's, 1,152 houses; 2,465 males, and 2,982 females. Total inhabitants, 50,206.

1832.

January 4.—Opening of the Nottingham Special Assize. The judges were Sir Joseph Littledale and Sir Stephen Gazelee. They were escorted into the town by more than a thousand gentlemen on horseback. 1832

On Thursday, the 5th, the judges attended Divine service at St. Mary's church, and subsequently charged the grand jury, of which Lord George Bentinck, M.P., was the foreman.

On the 6th, George Beck, aged 20 years, was placed at the bar, charged with firing the silk mill at Beeston. It was proved that Beck carried a flag or pole with ribbons attached at the head of the rioters, and gave them orders. His conviction followed as a matter of course.

George Hearson, aged 22 years, Thomas Shelton, aged 38 years, and John Armstrong, aged 26 years, were arraigned on the 7th, on the same indictment as that against Beck. Hearson set up an *alibi*, and seemed to look with confidence for an acquittal; but the jury pronounced them all guilty.

On Sunday, the 8th, their lordships attended service at St. Mary's, accompanied by the Corporation, and a large body of police, under the direction of Mr. Adamson, a superintendent of the London police, sent down by Government to take the command of the civil force, during the time of the special commission.

On the 9th, Henry Lindley, John Forman, William Kitchen, and David Thurman, were charged with participation in the crime.

1832 at Beeston. At a quarter-past eleven at night, after sitting throughout the day, Kitchen and Thurman were brought in guilty, and Lindley and Forman not guilty.

The 10th was occupied by the trial of Adam Wagstaff, Henry King, William Hitchcock, and Thomas Grundy. These men were also charged with firing the silk mill, but were acquitted.

On the 11th, Charles Berkins, Valentine Marshall, and Thos. Whittaker, were arraigned for feloniously setting fire to Colwick Hall. Late at night, the jury pronounced them all guilty.

The next day, Samuel Spencer, Joseph Shaw, Wm. Freeman, and Thomas Harrison, were arraigned on a similar indictment, but no evidence being offered against them, they were acquitted. They were succeeded at the bar by Thomas Smith and Henry King, who were also charged with being at Colwick. During the trial, the case against King completely broke down, and Smith being found not guilty, both were discharged.

On the 13th, Joseph Shaw and Robert Cutts, charged with setting fire to the Castle; and William Green, John Forman, Rd. Branston, and Henry Lindley, indicted for the attack on Wollaton Park gates, were discharged.

Messrs. Clarke, Gurney, Balguy, and Amos, were counsel for the Crown; Mr. M. D. Hill for the accused. A large public subscription furnished means for the defence.

Saturday, January 14th, was the last day of the proceedings. The convicted were called up to receive judgment. Beck, Hearson, Armstrong, Berkins, and Shelton, were sentenced to be hung; and Kitchen, Thurman, Marshall, and Whittaker, had sentence of death recorded against them, subsequently commuted into transportation.

In the meantime, the general feeling in the town and neighbourhood was so averse to the execution of the sentence, that every possible appeal was made to the judges and the Secretary of State, and a petition to the King was signed by upwards of 25,000 persons.

Day after day, however, rolled by, but brought not the desired relief; and though watched night and day, though guarded by a strong military party within the walls of the prison, the men meditated an escape! During the afternoon of Friday, they expressed a wish to be alone, as they felt indisposed, which request, owing to their general good conduct, was acceded to. Suspicions were however excited, and on examining one of their beds on Saturday evening, the blankets were found to be slit up and tied together, with knots at the distance of two feet asunder, to the length of 27 yards! With these they had intended to let themselves down into Narrow-marsh; but the design was frustrated, and those engaged in it heavily ironed.

Sunday indeed lay for them. They were galled by their fellow-prisoners, who were fully to remind them of their disappointment to this, the official order for

the execution of the whole five arrived from London, and was communicated to them. 1832

Immediately it became known that the death warrant had arrived, a petition to the House of Commons was hastily got up, praying the House to interfere, by addressing the King to stay the execution till inquiry had been made into the character of the evidence on which the prisoners had been convicted. This lay during Sunday for signature, and 17,000 names were affixed to it in less than twenty-four hours. A motion was founded on the petition, but without success. However, on Tuesday forenoon, a King's messenger arrived, bringing a reprieve for Shelton and Berkins.

On Wednesday, February 1st, the morning of their execution, the prisoners were all dressed alike, wearing black coats and waistcoats, white trousers, white cotton gloves, and black silk neckerchiefs. Beck ascended the platform with a firm step, but appeared sensible of his situation. A cry of "Murder!" was instantly heard in many parts of the crowd. A friend offered Hearson his arm, which he refused, saying, "No, I will go by myself." He advanced at a quick pace, and on reaching the steps, notwithstanding his irons, ran quickly up, jumping upon the scaffold. He then took off his white cap from his head, and twirled it round in his hand, along with his black neckerchief, as if in triumph, while the multitude gave several loud cheers, and his feet moved as if he were dancing. A gentleman on the scaffold stepped up to him, and said, "So, my lad, compose yourself, and look to God for support, and don't do so;" to which he answered, "I don't care, I've done nought amiss." He was at length persuaded to desist from any further display, and he stood composed while the rope was adjusted. It was found necessary to pinion his arms tighter, and whilst the hangman was fastening the knot, he looked up and said, "Give me plenty of drop, and do not let me suffer much punishment." His eyes were then bound round with the neckerchief. Armstrong, on seeing Hearson act thus, said, "I will have none of that," and coming upon the scaffold, he stood peaceable and composed, except nodding and moving to numbers he recognised in the crowd. He threw two oranges away, which were soon taken up. Beck and Hearson also moved to a great many of their acquaintance.

Beck was a native of Wollaton; Hearson, of Nottingham; and Armstrong, of Pleasley, near Mansfield.

That dreadful scourge, the Asiatic cholera, appeared in Nottingham early this year, but for several months its ravages were confined to a few isolated cases. The 21st March was set apart as a public fast day, and Divine service was held in the various churches and chapels. In the succeeding four months but few cases were known; but in August the epidemic broke out with alarming violence. In the seven days ending the 24th of that month, 41 new cases were reported to the local Board of Health,

1832 and 18 deaths. The Board, of which Mr. T. Wakefield was chairman, exerted themselves energetically in checking the progress of the disease. Amongst other means, they appointed two medical men, who were fully employed for some weeks, night and day, in visiting cholera patients in the Meadow-plats and other exposed parts of the town. In the week ending September 6th, there were 62 new cases, and 33 deaths. The week following, the cases were 104, and the deaths 36. In the seven days terminating September 27th, the deaths were 31, and in the seven following, 37. From this time the epidemic gradually declined, and finally ceased in November. There were in the whole, 930 attested cases: of these 600 recovered, and 330 died. The visitation was first observed in Lees'-yard, Narrow-marsh, and it prevailed in its most fatal form in imperfectly drained and ill ventilated localities.

But a very short interval was allowed by the authorities between the death and burial of the victims; so short indeed, as to create an erroneous impression in the minds of many that some were buried alive. Principally by the generosity of Mr. S. Fox, who was a very active member of the Board of Health, the spacious place of sepulture adjoining Beck-street, known as "the Cholera burial-ground," was provided for the interments.

We select the following from the records of remarkable cases:—Fear was found a great predisposer to disease. Early in September, Sergeant Varley, who resided in Newark-lane, being ill, an old friend, Mr. Wilcock, framesmith, went for the purpose of seeing him, but hearing that his malady was cholera, turned back while on the stairs, returned home in a state of considerable alarm, was immediately seized with the disorder himself, and both died within a few hours of each other.

Mr. John Kale, basket-maker, of South-street, aged 23 years, and his wife, aged 21 years, died on the 12th of October. They were both in perfect health when they arose in the morning, but soon after, the wife complained of being unwell; not suspecting anything materially amiss, he went on his business to Hucknall, and on returning through Bulwell in the afternoon was taken ill, and was so bad that he died on the road, and so rapid was the decomposition of the body, that it was obliged to be buried the same evening at Basford. In the meantime, the wife sickened, and died the same night, of cholera, at South-street, in Nottingham, leaving an orphan, about a year old.

Mrs. Margaret Rose, of Basford, aged 55 years, was at Bulwell on Tuesday, August 28th, attending the funeral of her daughter, Mrs. Seagrave, of that place, who died of cholera, and on Wednesday morning, about eleven o'clock, when returning to Basford, was attacked by the epidemic. Notwithstanding every assistance, she died in about twelve hours, and on Thursday morning, having been put in her coffin by Mr. Hemingway, her medical attendant, so dreaded a disease, no one could be

found to carry her to the churchyard, Mr. H. therefore undertook the task, and, with one assistant, carried her remains to the churchyard, where she was interred, and two hours after the grave had been filled up, the clergyman read the burial service, in the presence of her relatives.

The total expenditure of the Nottingham Board of Health was £749, exclusive of £200 given to the patients for food, blankets, &c.

January 25.—A numerous meeting was held in the Town Hall, the Mayor in the chair, at which it was resolved to raise a subscription to widen Chapel-bar, by re-building it on the south side. The improvement was deemed so desirable that by the end of the year the fund amounted to about £2,500, and the work was proceeded with. The Corporation gave £500, Lord Middleton £100, S. Smith & Co. £100, J. S. Wright, Esq., £63, the Duke of Rutland £50, W. R. Elliott, Esq., £50, Messrs. Moore and Robinson £50, and the Mayor £20.

March 18.—A shocking murder was committed by Thomas Popple, a joiner, aged 55 years, residing in Bottle-alley, on the body of his child, a pretty girl, about three and a half years of age, accompanied by a barbarous attack on his wife, which placed her life in the utmost jeopardy.

About three o'clock in the morning (Sunday), Popple awoke his wife, who was twenty years younger than himself, by declaring that he would have something to drink, and she at once offered to procure what he required. He refused her assistance, stating he would fetch it himself, and telling her if she stirred he would murder her. A light was burning in the room, and to her alarm, by his getting out she perceived a large chisel in the bed. Immediately he left the apartment, she rose with an idea of escaping, but Popple hearing her movement, came back in an impetuous rage, and brandishing the chisel, commenced an attack upon her. She defended herself a long time with a rooking chair, and watching her opportunity, at length seized the iron part of the chisel; after a struggle, the handle only was left in his hand, and she threw the other part of the tool away. Popple then took up a piece of deal, about four inches by two and two feet long, with which he struck her severely many times, she vociferating "murder" as loudly as she could. This weapon broke, and the poor woman managed to get into another room, followed however by Popple, who grasped the leg of an oak dining-table he had been making, and renewed the attack. Though almost insensible from the blows on her head, she succeeded in rolling down stairs, having, to use her own expression, "fought like a dragon." Whether he followed or not, she could not say, but the probability is in the negative, for the enraged man seems to have turned the current of his fury upon the little girl. Lifting her up by the legs, he beat her head upon the floor, and then threw her down the staircase. He subsequently sallied forth into the street with

1832 no other covering than his shirt, and was taken into custody. He was tried at the next assizes, on the charge of wilful murder, but being proved to be insane, was ordered to be kept in safe custody during his Majesty's pleasure. He died ten or twelve years afterwards, in the Lunatic Asylum, Carlton-road.

April.—The Rev. G. Wilkins, D.D., appointed by the Archbishop of York, Archdeacon of the Archdeaconry of Nottinghamshire, void by the resignation of the Rev. Dr. Barrow.

April 14.—The utmost anxiety prevailed respecting the result of the motion for the second reading of the Reform Bill in the House of Lords. In the course of the day (Saturday), many manufacturers refused to give out materials to their workmen, fearing the consequences that might result from a second rejection. At three minutes past five, the joyful intelligence arrived, of the motion having succeeded, and the hosiers no longer hesitated in resuming business. The news was brought by a gentleman from the *Sun* newspaper office, who travelled in an open chaise with four horses 125 miles in less than nine hours and a quarter!

May 15.—An immense public meeting was held in the Market-place, the Mayor presiding, at which an indignant protest was unanimously adopted, against "the factious opposition" in high places, adverse to Reform, which had just led to the resignation of the Grey administration: "such opposition originating in the most sordid and unpatriotic motives." The chief speakers were Lord Ranelagh, Colonel Wildman, Mr. Alderman Oldknow, and Mr. T. Bailey.

May 18.—This was also a day of intense excitement. Every alehouse sign in the town with the name or portrait of King or Queen was either taken down or besmeared with tar, Royalty being for the moment very unpopular, on account of his Majesty having as it was alleged through petticoat influence, confided the reins of government to the Duke of Wellington. However, on the receipt of the news that the Duke was unable to form a Ministry, and that Earl Grey had been recalled, with power to create as many new peers as would be requisite to ensure the safety of the Bill, the utmost joy was manifested, and a number of sheep were publicly roasted in the Market-place.

June 4.—The popular enthusiasm attained its climax on receipt of an express from the *Sun* office, announcing the majority of 84 on the third reading of the Bill in the Lords. The standard was hoisted on the summit of the Exchange; two small pieces of cannon were fired repeatedly in the Market-place; bands of music and small processions with banners paraded the town; bonfires were kept up till midnight, and an immense amount of gunpowder was exploded. But perhaps the most remarkable feature in the rejoicings was the circumstance that every church bell in the town was set in vigorous motion during the day. St. Andrew's commenced; then St. Peter's; then St. Andrew's; then St. Nicholas's; and lastly the bells of St. Andrew's.

August 6.—This was the day appointed for the formal celebration of "the triumph." At an early hour, the ringing of bells and the firing of guns awakened the less enthusiastic from their slumbers; and at nine, a procession formed in the Market-place and along Clumber-street, in the following order:—

Two or three hundred gentlemen on horseback, four abreast; several hundred persons on foot, in rows of eight or ten; Ilkeston band in blue jackets and caps; the Beehive Friendly Society, wearing medals; Hare and Hounds Society, with a flag; large tri-coloured flag, belonging to Mr. Langford, maltster; purple flag, pink border; the Smiths' Union, the men wearing white leather aprons, and bearing a large banner; a union jack; Society of Farriers, with a light blue flag; Black Horse Amicable Society, wearing rosettes, with four flags; Bull's Head Friendly Society, with two tri-coloured flags; Society of Shoemakers, with large purple banner; dark-coloured flag, with tri-coloured edge; band of music; a boy, working a two-needle stocking frame, built for the occasion, and borne by four men; members of the committee, on horseback; the Typographical Society, with a pink flag; a platform, drawn by horses, on which two men were at work with a printing-press, the bills from which, commemorative of the day, were distributed to the crowd; Manchester Order of Odd Fellows, the members in full regalia; eight Lodge flags and banners; Mr. H. Leaver's workmen, with a purple flag; Society of the Royal Children, Castle-gate, with a purple and blue flag; Earl Grey Friendly Society, with a crimson and yellow flag; Mr. Garton's flag; workmen in Mr. Aulton's lace factory, with crimson flag; Mr. Aulton's bobbin and carriage makers, with a tri-coloured flag; workmen of Mr. Ash, Poplar-place, with tri-coloured flag; Society at the Half Moon, Carter-gate, with tri-coloured flag; the men from the Gas works, with tri-coloured flag; tri-coloured flag from the Ragged Staff; Mr. Cooke's yellow flag; band of music; Hope and Anchor Society, with tri-coloured flag; Lodge of Ancient Druids, the members wearing medals and ribbons, and bearing three fine flags; open carriage to receive Sir Thomas Denman and General Ferguson, drawn by six grey horses, the postilions in purple silk jackets, yellow jockey caps, and white breeches; Members of the Nottingham Imperial Union of Odd Fellows, with a number of Lodge flags; band of music, principally members of the South Notta. Yeomanry Cavalry band; Members of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in their sashes, with several flags; purple flag, "Independent electors of Sneinton;" several banners; Society of Tailors, with large purple banner; Society of the Ship tavern, with tri-coloured flag; band of music from Beeston; Members of the Notta. Political Union, with four brilliant flags; another brass band, various other societies, and thirty or forty other large flags. The procession closed with 5,400 boys, bearing about fifteen hundred miniature flags, of every variety and colour, which resembled in effect the gay appearance of a rich

1832 bed of tulips in full bloom. Most of the large flags and banners were new, and bore appropriate inscriptions.

The procession moved slowly along Clumber-street and Milton-street, then turned on Charlotte-street, back by Glasshouse-street and Broad-street, down Goose-gate, Hookley, and Sneinton-street, through Carter-gate, Fisher-gate, and Red Lion-square to the Flood-road. It was not till half-past eleven that the whole procession had got without the town. It then extended fully a mile along the road, and consisted of from fifteen to twenty thousand persons. The signal being given to halt, all turned round, and returned in reversed order, having received the two Members from their private carriage into that prepared for their reception. The procession then passed up Hollow-stone, by St. Mary's church side, along the Pavements, up Castle-gate and Castle-road, down Park-street and Friar-lane into the Market-place, going up Beestmarket-hill and turning by the Long-row, and forming finally in a compact mass near the Exchange. Sir T. Denman and Sir R. C. Ferguson gave addresses from the Exchange window, and the political pageant dissolved.

The juvenile part of the procession was subsequently conducted into George-street, all the avenues into which had been closed by barricades, and six or seven thousand were each presented with a penny bun and a small mug of ale.

About four hundred gentlemen dined together, at seven in the evening, in the Exchange Hall. Mr. T. Wakefield presided, and the speakers were Lord Viscount Lumley, M.P., Sir T. Denman, Sir R. C. Ferguson, Col. Cooper Gardiner, and W. F. N. Norton, Esq.

The festivities terminated with a magnificent display of fireworks.

The total expense attending the celebration was £1,066. The subscription that had been raised previously amounted to £1,072; the balance of £6 was presented to the Nottingham Dispensary.

August 8.—A special jury, at the Leicester Assises, awarded the Duke of Newcastle the sum of £21,000, as compensation from the hundred of Broxtowe for the destruction of Nottingham Castle.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman John Heard appointed Mayor; Mr. George Harvey and Mr. John Rogers, Sheriffs.

November 7.—Elevation of Sir Thomas Denman to the Lord Chief Justiceship of the Court of King's Bench, vacant by the death of Lord Tenterden. This created a vacancy in the representation of the town; but a dissolution of Parliament followed almost immediately.

November 13.—Death of Mr. Edmund Hart, a distinguished townsman, in the 58th year of his age. He was ordered of him that at an early age he manifested an ardent love of liberty, civil and religious; as well as of evil report.

with unshaken firmness, and with an unbending integrity of purpose that could only spring from rectitude of intention, was always ready to stand forth, a staunch and devoted advocate of truth, religion, and justice, whenever and wherever his services were required." Brought up to a mechanical business, the cares of a large family required both perseverance and industry in his avocation; nevertheless, his vigorous mind found means to cultivate and enjoy the pleasures which arise from literary and intellectual sources, as a work entitled *Philosophical Inquiries*, and several original productions from the press, bear testimony. Having also a predilection for the Esculapian art, in the latter part of his career he devoted himself to prescribing and dispensing, in understood cases, amongst the poorer classes, to whom his feeling mind never put the inquiry, "Shall I be paid?" but generously sacrificed both time and medicine to alleviate the sufferings of the afflicted and indigent, when there was not the most distant prospect of being remunerated. Hundreds of his poor patients could attest the accuracy of his judgment, his usefulness, kindness of heart, and the success which attended his practice in the treatment of disease. Having gratuitously vaccinated many thousands of the children of the poor, the society of the London Vaccine Institution, in testimony of the high value they placed on his liberal co-operation, in 1822 elected him an honorary member of their society, and respectfully requested his acceptance of their diploma. For his benevolent labours in the same cause, the Corporation presented him, in 1813, with the freedom of the town, exempt from charge, an *earned*, well merited, an honourable token of their approbation.

December 10.—Borough election—nomination of candidates. Mr. Alderman Oldknow and Mr. T. Wakefield nominated General Ferguson; Lord Rancliffe and F. Hart, Esq., proposed Lord Viscount Duncannon; and Mr. James Butlin and Mr. J. S. Gell nominated a Tory candidate in the person of Capt. James Edward Gordon. The show of hands was greatly in favour of the two former. The result of the poll, the next day, was as follows:—

General Ferguson	...	...	2399
Lord Duncannon	...	...	2349
Captain Gordon	...	...	976

December 15.—Election for the Northern Division, at Mansfield. Messrs. H. G. Knight and T. Wakefield nominated Lord Lumley (Whig); Messrs. F. Hart and Wm. Mason, Col. Gardiner (Whig); and Messrs. L. Rolleston and E. Unwin, Thos. Houldsworth, Esq. (Tory). The poll closed on the 18th, as follows:—

Lord Viscount Lumley	...	...	1692
Thomas Houldsworth, Esq....	...	...	1373
Colonel J. G. Cooper Gardiner	...	...	1174

December 17.—Election for the Southern Division. J. E. Denison, Esq. (Whig), and the Earl of Lincoln (Tory), were returned unopposed.

1833.

1833

February 19.—Public dinner at the Exchange Hall, to celebrate the return of the Whig members. Mr. T. Wakefield presided, and General Ferguson, Lord Duncannon, the Mayor, Mr. R. Hopper, and Mr. James Morley, took a leading part in the after proceedings.

April 2.—Execution of William Clayton, aged 18, in front of the County Gaol, for the wilful murder of Mr. Samuel Kay.

The deed was committed near Sutton-cum-Lound, on the 27th of the previous December. Kay, who was a butcher in easy circumstances, had been to Bawtry market, which he was accustomed to attend with meat, and set out on his return home, with his horse and light cart, about six in the evening, in a state of partial intoxication. The horse and cart arriving at his residence in Sutton without a driver, a search was made for the missing man, and his body was found the next day, in a close called "the Silver Toppings," lying on a manure heap, near three haystacks. A knife had evidently been stuck in his neck, under the ear, as far as into his mouth, and then forcibly turned round in the wound, exactly as a butcher would kill a sheep. The pockets of the deceased had been rifled of their contents.

Kay was 41 years of age, and a stout and strong man, so that at first it was conjectured that more than one person was implicated in his murder. His neighbours offered a reward of £50 for the discovery of the perpetrators, and the Secretary of State offered £100 in addition. Mr. Etches, an intelligent police officer of Doncaster, was the successful party. Suspicion fell upon Clayton, not from his having been seen with Kay on the evening of the murder, but from the circumstance of his spending profusely a comparatively large sum of money for one in his station, being merely a butcher's lad. The discovery of two watch keys in his possession, and subsequently of a watch, known to have been the property of the murdered man, strengthened the suspicion, and though the coroner's jury had refused to charge him with the deed, not thinking the evidence sufficient, Clayton was taken into custody and committed for trial, the nails on his boots having been found to correspond with the footmarks where the struggle had taken place in the field.

Clayton was tried at the County Hall, before Lord Denman, on the 20th of March, and found guilty. Friday, the 22nd, was the day first appointed for his execution, but the judge granted a respite till the 2nd of April.

He was attended by the Rev. J. W. Brooks, at that time vicar of Claborough, in whose service he was for a short time before, and who succeeded in gaining a confession of

guilt. He stated further, that he was induced by Kay to accompany him, under the idea of meeting a female at the haystacks. On approaching the spot, Kay called out, as though inquiring if she was there. Receiving no answer, Kay made overtures to him of a nameless character; that they were rejected, and a struggle ensued; this was renewed, and Kay fell; Clayton dropped with his knee upon him, and at the instant drew forth his butcher's knife, and stabbed him in the neck. Kay rose, staggered to the manure heap, and there fell. Clayton hurried homeward, and by the way resolved to abscond. He therefore turned back, and determined to rob the deceased, as he should want money to aid him in his flight. He took from the body two sovereigns, a half-sovereign, and a handful of silver, and also his watch and pocket handkerchief. He then searched for the knife, which he had dropped in the struggle, and sticking it into the ground, stamped it beneath the surface. He reached home, he added, about nine o'clock. The knife was found some months afterwards, in the precise situation Clayton had indicated; and the handkerchief was discovered hid in his father's haystack.

The convict was tolerably firm on the scaffold; and the Rev. J. W. Brooks addressed the spectators in his behalf. His corpse was buried in the upper felons' yard, with the inscription over his grave, "W. C., 1833."

Clayton was a native of Bulwell, but when eight years of age removed with his father to Clarbrough.

May 30.—Mr. David Musson Jackson appointed governor of the House of Correction, in the place of Mr. John Rainbow, deceased; and Mr. William Barnes chosen to succeed Mr. Richard Birch, deceased, as Mayor's sergeant and head constable.

July 24.—Richard Lowater was tried at the Town Hall, before Mr. Justice Taunton, for the murder of Richard Elliott.

It was stated at the trial that, on the night of June 25th, in a struggle for the possession of a gun it was accidentally discharged, and Elliott fell mortally wounded. The jury returned a verdict of manslaughter, and Lowater was sentenced to a year's imprisonment.

August 27.—About half-past three in the afternoon, an alarming fire broke out in the premises on the south side of Petergate, occupied as a hat manufactory by Mr. George Carey, junr. Some of his journeymen had been drinking, and were playing pranks with one another, and in a scuffle managed to overturn a vessel of inflammable liquid. Everything in the room was immediately in a blaze, and the men themselves were burnt about the legs in rushing away. With a rapidity almost inconceivable the flames spread throughout the entire building; and though four or five engines were quickly at work, nothing was saved from destruction but a portion of the outer walls. A detachment of the 35th Regiment of Foot preserved order. At seven in the evening, while parts of the walls deemed dangerous were being

1833 pulled down, a young man named Benjamin Lucas, a builder, who had been extremely active, fell from the roof of an adjoining building through his foot slipping on the tiles, and so fractured his skull that he shortly afterwards died.

September 13.—A grand Masonic festival at the Exchange Hall. Colonel Wildman presided; supported on his right by his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex and Lord Ranccliffe, and on his left by Lord Churchill and John Heard, Esq., Mayor.

September 18.—The Rev. W. Butler elected head master of the Free Grammar School.

September 29.—Mr. Alderman Wm. Soar appointed Mayor; Mr. Thomas Roberts and Mr. T. Bishop, junr., Sheriffs.

December 17.—A very severe gale occasioned the death of an amiable and much respected lady. Mrs. Payne, the wife of Mr. Samuel Payne, solicitor, was returning from the town to her residence in Ropewalk-street, the Park, about one o'clock, when the garden wall of Mr. James Wallis, (now the residence of Mr. J. B. Gibson,) within a short distance of her own house, was blown down, and she was overthrown and crushed to death.

1834.

1834 *February 1.*—About nine o'clock this morning, some of the brown nets in the warehouse of Messrs. Livingston & Cheetham, Hounds-gate, accidentally caught fire. Though the flames were very soon extinguished by the prompt assistance of the neighbours, £700 damage was inflicted.

July 18.—Lord Duncannon announced to the electors his retirement from the representation of the town in Parliament.

July 22 & 23.—Cricket match, at Cambridge, between eleven of that city and the same number of Nottingham. The Nottingham players, Barker, Heath, Day, Jarvis, Clark, Good, Woodward, Garratt, Redgate, Oscroft, and Rothera, won, with 150 runs to spare.

July 23.—Nomination of candidates at the Exchange Hall. Mr. G. Gill proposed William Eagle, Esq. (Radical), of Leighton Hall, Suffolk, seconded by Mr. B. Boothby, junr.; and Sir John Cam Hobhouse, Bart. (Whig), was nominated by Lord Ranccliffe and Mr. T. Wakefield. The show of hands was in favour of Mr. Eagle.

The poll was taken on the 24th and 25th, at four booths in the Market-place. It closed as follows:—

Sir J. C. Hobhouse	...	...	1591
Mr. Eagle	...	...	566
			<hr/>
M . . .	...	...	1025

July 23.—Execution of William Hinckley, in front of the House of Correction, for the murder of his wife. 1834

Hinckley was a Derby man, residing in Bold-lane, and was 31 years of age. His wife, whose maiden name was Fanny Young, was a native of Matlock. They were married in 1824. She was a particularly neat and cleanly woman,—qualities, however, which her brutal partner did not seem to appreciate, for his ill usage soon compelled her to leave him, and she came to reside in Nottingham. She entered the service of a butcher, as his housekeeper, but quitted it on his marriage, and began to cohabit with a joiner named Bull, with whom she resided in lodgings at the house of Mr. Peck, a confectioner, in Beck-lane, until the Christmas before her death, when she left, professedly to go to Derby on a visit to a sister; for the Pecks were unaware of the fact that she was a married woman until the day of the murder. It appears, however, that she returned to her husband, and lived with him in a small house furnished for them by his parents. While he followed the avocation of a day labourer, she opened a small cook's shop, which was well frequented.

On Monday, June 23rd, Hinckley, returning from the labour of the day, found his home deserted, the woman having not only carried off her own apparel, but also portions of his, and everything she conveniently could. His suspicions and inquiries led him to infer that she had gone to Nottingham. Accordingly, on the 27th, he walked the sixteen miles, and traced her to her old paramour's lodgings in Beck-lane. An altercation ensued, and in the height of his phrensy, he drew his knife, and commenced so ferocious and persevering an attack, that when Mr. Peck, who was at dinner in the room below, hearing the woman scream, rushed upstairs, he found him cutting and hacking at her, regardless whether he cut head, neck, arms, or face. Peck could not induce him to desist, and struggled with him ineffectually for nearly a quarter of an hour. At length, attracted by Peck's cries of "murder," a constable named Burrows arrested his arm, and took him into custody. He had, however, to strike him with his staff several times on the arm, and once over the head, before he would desist from stabbing her.

The evidence was so conclusive, that when arraigned at the bar, before Sir W. E. Taunton, on the 21st of July, he was found guilty, and sentenced to death. He was executed as stated, and his body was interred in the felons' yard of the Town Gaol.

August 1.—Celebration of negro emancipation, 800,000 slaves in the British colonies this day receiving their freedom. Many of the shops in the principal parts of the town were closed. Public tea parties in connection with all the Dissenters' chapels were held: and the Sunday school children of most of them regaled with cake and wine.

August 26 & 27.—The return cricket match was played on Nottingham Forest, between eleven of Cambridge and eleven of

- 1834 Nottingham. Cambridge scored 29 and 85, and Nottingham 228 in one innings.

September 3—The General Baptist chapel in Stoney-street, having been considerably enlarged, was re-opened for Divine service, by the Rev. J. P. Mursell, of Leicester, and the Rev. T. Stevenson, of Loughborough. The collections exceeded £100.

September 8, 9, 10, & 11.—Cricket match at the Hyde Park ground, Sheffield, between Nottingham and Sheffield. Nottingham, only innings, 162; Sheffield, first 88, second 51, total 139. The victors were, Good, Heath, Barker, Jervia, Oscroft, Garratt, Rothera, Redgate, Woodward, Clark, and Henson.

September 29.—Mr. C. L. Morley appointed Mayor; Mr. Charles Leavers and Mr. John Birkhead, Sheriffs.

These were the last appointments under the ancient Charter; and Mr. Morley continued in office until the coming into operation of the Act for Municipal Reform.

Girls' National School-room, Barker-gate, erected.

1835.

- 1835 *January 26.*—Nomination to supply a vacancy in the Junior Council. The candidates were Mr. William Parsons and Mr. Edmund Percy. Both candidates being young men of the legal profession, and of highly respectable Conservative families, the contest which followed excited more than usual interest.

The polling continued five days, with varying success. Every exertion was put forth, as if to render this, the last election before Municipal Reform, the most memorable of any. Money was lavishly disbursed, outvoters were brought in from Birmingham, Worcester, Leicester, and all the neighbouring towns, and the bustle and excitement were beyond all precedent, excepting two or three of Mr. Birch's elections. The poll finally closed as follows:—

Mr. Edmund Percy	1437
Mr. William Parsons	1356

Majority	...	81
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February 5.—Shortly after eight in the evening, a fire broke out on the premises in Shaw's-lane, Parliament-street, occupied by Mr. Cross, with naves, spokes, &c., as a wheel manufactory. Effective assistance was immediately rendered, and though the conflagration was at one time very alarming, the damage was limited to about £120.

February.—William Reader, Esq., resigned the office of Deputy Recorder, and was succeeded by Andrew Amos, Esq.

March 18.—Formation of the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Fire and Life Assurance Company.

March 28.—About midnight, a destructive fire was observed in the shop of Mr. W. H. Drury, druggist, Carlton-street. The engines were quickly at work, but it was not till half-past one that the flames were extinguished. Mr. Drury's stock-in-trade was entirely destroyed, and some injury was inflicted upon that of his neighbours, Messrs. Parker, Glover, & Dearden.

March 31.—Henry Gally Knight, Esq., elected M.P. for North Nottinghamshire, in the place of Lord Viscount Lumley, now Earl of Scarbrough.

April 3.—Owing to the plentiful harvest of the previous summer, the price of wheat in Nottingham market was 38s. per quarter.

April 24.—Re-election of Sir J. C. Hobhouse, without opposition, on the nomination of Lord Ranelagh and Mr. T. Wakefield. The hon. Baronet had vacated his seat by accepting office in the Melbourne Administration, as President of the Board of Control. He had been previously Chief Commissioner of Woods and Forests.

May 4.—Fatal pugilistic encounter on Mapperley Plains, between two young men, named Austin and Lupton. It arose in a great measure from their rivalry in their attentions to a young woman, servant at a public-house in Woolpack-lane, who had declared her intention of viewing favourably whichever might prove the victor. The encounter was so obstinate, that, at the end of two hours, Lupton was rendered insensible, and died soon after.

June 19.—Died, at his seat, Wollaton Hall, H. Willoughby, Lord Middleton, aged 74 years. He was succeeded by his cousin, Digby Willoughby, Esq., of the Royal Navy.

August 25.—Fearful thunder storm, accompanied by a tremendous fall of rain and hail. It commenced about half-past eleven in the morning, and continued nearly an hour. As usual at such visitations, the watercourses were choked up, and many streets had all the appearance of rivers. A few instances will serve as an illustration of the whole. In St. Peter's-square the flood was from one to three feet deep. In Wheeler-gate many of the cellars and lower apartments were half filled, and in one in particular, occupied by a baker named Whatton, the tenant and his wife were at one moment in actual danger of being drowned. The lower part of Hounds-gate was in much the same position, the house of Mr. L. Samuels, for example, having a depth of nineteen feet of the insinuating element in its basement. Great damage was also sustained by the inhabitants of Carrington-street, the Meadow-plats, Beck-street, and other localities. The electric fluid struck several buildings; and at Basford occasioned the death of Mr. Lomas, of Parson's flat.

August 27.—The Archbishop of York, attended by G. H. Vernon, Esq., M.P., Chancellor of the diocese, Dr. Wilkins, Archdeacon, and J. Buckle, Esq., Registrar, consecrated the new burial ground, known as "the Cholera," or St. Ann's.

1835 *August 27, 28, & 29.*—Cricket match at Brighton, between Nottingham and Sussex. Sussex scored 94 and 65; and their opponents, 74 and 88, with two wickets to go down. The victors were Barker, Day, Rothera, Woodward, Jervis, Clark, Redgate, Good, Parr, Garratt, and Heath.

September 7, 8, & 9.—The return match came off on the Forest ground. About forty ale-booths were erected, and the attendance was nearly as numerous as at the Races. Our townsmen were again the conquerors. Sussex scored 98 and 42; and Nottingham 81 and 60, with three wickets to go down.

September 9.—Municipal Reform Act passed, and on Nov. 9th the town was divided into wards, under the provisions of the Act. The division was effected by R. T. Fisher, Esq., and D. C. Moylan, Esq., barristers-at-law.

November 26.—Opening of the continuation of the Nottingham canal from the corner of Poplar to Sneinton Hermitage.

December 26.—First election of a Town Council, under the Municipal Corporations Act. The returns were as follows:—*St. Ann's Ward*—G. Carey, J. Hedderly, S. Bean, W. Sharpe, H. Scorer, and W. Surplice. *Byron*—H. Frearson, W. Aulton, N. Barnsdall, R. Sutton, J. Rogers, and C. L. Morley. *St. Mary's*—R. Morley, T. Roberts, H. Leaver, S. Wakefield, Dr. Howitt, and W. Vickers. *Exchange*—F. E. Shipley, J. Bradshaw, J. Whyatt, W. Roworth, Dr. Williams, and J. Armitage. *Castle*—T. Wakefield, F. Hart, J. Brewster, T. H. Smith, Dr. Payne, and W. Cutta. *Park*—O. T. Oldknow, B. Boothby, junr., T. Close, J. Heard, R. Sands, and W. Parsons. *Sherwood*—J. Mills, M. Gedling, junr., T. Guilford, J. Swann, J. Hicklin, and S. Bennett.

Amongst them were several members of the former Corporate body, one of whom, Mr. O. T. Oldknow, had more votes recorded in his favour than any other of the forty-two.

December 31.—First meeting of the Town Council. Dr. Payne and Mr. Armitage, members of the Society of Friends, having a conscientious objection to make the declaration provided by the statute, could not take their seats. Messrs. F. Hart, C. L. Morley, J. Heard, J. Wells, Dr. Blake, H. Leaver, W. Roworth, W. Howitt, J. Nixon, W. Soars, J. Wilson, J. Newton, T. L. Bradley, and G. Carey were appointed Aldermen. Mr. Hart presided.

1836.

1836 *January 1.*—First quarterly meeting of the Town Council. Mr. Thomas Wakefield appointed Mayor; Mr. Henry Enfield, Town Clerk; Mr. Alfred Thomas Fellows, Treasurer; and Mr. Henry Moses Wood, Sheriff.

The number of voters on the Burgess roll at this date was, 1836
in *St. Ann's Ward*, 277; *Byron*, 299; *Castle*, 377; *Exchange*,
268; *St. Mary's*, 245; *Park*, 435; *Sherwood*, 326.

January 15.—Mr. John Bradley elected an Alderman in the place of Mr. Nixon, who had declined acceptance of the office.

January 18.—The election of Aldermen, and the resignation of Dr. Payne and Mr. Armitage, created a number of vacancies in the Council, which were thus filled up:—*St. Ann's Ward*—Mr. Joseph Frearson. *Byron*—Mr. William Musham. *Castle*—Mr. John Nunn and Mr. James Tomlinson. *Exchange*—Mr. Thomas Bailey and Mr. George Hopkinson. *St. Mary's*—Mr. George Eddowes. *Park*—Mr. John Birkhead.

February 17.—An inquest was held before Mr. Dunn, Coroner, on the body of a much respected townsman, Mr. Thomas Gibson Medlam, aged 66 years, who had been missing since the night of the 21st of January. His mysterious absence had given rise to the most painful surmises, unfortunately confirmed by the finding of his corpse in the canal, near the basin at the Seven Arches. It was inferred that he had committed suicide under the influence of deep mental depression, occasioned by the death of a very intimate friend.

March 11.—The career of a young gentleman of considerable promise, Mr. George Hopkinson, junr., attorney, was suddenly closed by a lamentable accident. He was taking equestrian exercise on the Derby-road, when the horse took fright, and becoming unmanageable, galloped down the hill at a fearful rate, and threw him with great violence, near the junction of Parliament-street and Chapel-bar. He survived but a few minutes.

March 17.—Mr. Henry Moses Wood elected an Alderman in the place of C. L. Morley, Esq., deceased.

March 30.—Execution of Richard Smith *alias* Jones, aged 45 years, for committing a rape on the person of Mary Green.

Jones, as his name is supposed to have been properly, was a native of London, and of respectable parentage. He was apprenticed to a jeweller, and at the expiration of his term of servitude, commenced business on his own account, in New-street-square, near Fetter-lane. After a few years he failed, and was obliged to retire into the country. He was married, but had no children. He went to Liverpool and Huddersfield, but not succeeding, in March, 1835, he came to Nottingham, and opened a small shop for drapery in Carrington-street. Mary Green, 14 years of age, was in his domestic service, and she stated in evidence that between ten and eleven in the night of July 23rd, when no one else was in the house, Jones plied her with brandy and water, into which some narcotic had been introduced, and during her consequent insensibility, violated her person.

His trial could not take place till the 14th of March, so that he had to lie in gaol about eight months. Upon the jury delivering their verdict "guilty," he was overcome with astonishment,

1836 having been led to confidently anticipate an acquittal. He, however, soon recovered his former composure, and heard the sentence unmoved. Great efforts were subsequently made to induce the Judge, Sir John Bosanquet, to save his life, but without success. He made strong and repeated protestations of his innocence. At the place of execution (a platform outside the wall of the House of Correction), almost at the last moment, with the rope around his neck and secured to the beam, he exclaimed with a loud and firm voice, "Gentlemen, fellow countrymen, I die innocent, I die innocent; may God have mercy on my soul." Many voices responded "Amen," in the midst of which he resumed, "I die through perjury; I die innocent." The cap was then drawn over his face, and the drop descended. His corpse was interred at seven in the evening, in St. Nicholas's burial-ground.

April 4.—Easter Monday. A public dinner, for which great preparation had been made, was given at the Exchange Rooms, to Daniel O'Connell, Esq., M.P. for Dublin. It was intended "to testify the high regard in which the inhabitants of this district hold his eminent public services, and to express their anxious desire that full and complete justice may be done to the Irish nation, and the union of the two kingdoms cemented, by an equal participation in the benefits of British laws and British justice." Mr. O'Connell was met on the London-road by a large procession, with flags, banners, and music. He was drawn in an open carriage with out-riders, up Hollow-stone, and along the Pavements, Castle-gate, Castle-road, and Park-street, into the Market-place. Messrs. B. Boothby, W. Howitt, G. Gill, and R. Sands sat with him. Immediately on his arrival at the Exchange, "the Great Agitator" advanced to the large front window, where a projecting platform had been erected, and delivered a long and characteristic address. The number of people present was variously estimated; it certainly exceeded 20,000. At the subsequent banquet, the Mayor presided, and the chief speakers were Mr. O'Connell, Lord Raneliffe, General Ferguson, Colonel Wildman, and Colonel Thompson, M.P.

May 1.—By the operation of the Act for Municipal Reform, the magistrates of the old Corporation were superseded by other gentlemen, who had been nominated by the Town Council, and appointed by the Secretary of State. These were, Francis Hart, Esq., John Heard, Esq., Thomas Close, Esq., Richard Morley, Esq., Charles Paget, Esq., John Wells, Esq., Thomas Marriott, Esq., Thomas Wakefield, Esq., Micah Gedling, Esq., James Nixon, Esq., William Soars, Esq., and William Roworth, Esq.

May 12.—Mr. Michael Browne, solicitor, elected Coroner.

May 19.—The Royal assent given to the Nottingham Cemetery Bill.

July 8.—Introduction of the New Poor Law. The Board of Guardians of the Nottingham Union held their first meeting. Mr. G. Eddowes was appointed chairman, and Mr. Absalom

Barnett, Clerk. The inmates of St. Nicholas's and St. Peter's 1836
 poorhouses were removed to St. Mary's, the most commodious of
 the three, in the latter part of the same month. There were 34
 from the former, and 20 from the latter.

September 12.—Samuel Redgate, of Nottingham, the celebrated
 bowler, played a cricket match with *eleven* of the Kensington
 club, and won it by 14. Redgate scored 7 in his first innings,
 and 17 in the second. The Kensington (New Radford) players
 scored 3 and 7! No less than five of them appeared thus 0—0.

November 1.—The Municipal election. For *St. Ann's Ward*,
 Mr. Henry Scorer and Mr. William Surplice. *Byron*, Mr. Richard
 Sutton and Mr. Robert Seals. *Castle*, Mr. John Nunn and Mr.
 Cutta. *Exchange*, Mr. Edward Wood and Mr. James Cropper.
St. Mary's, Mr. A. Wheatcroft and Mr. S. Adams. *Park*, Mr.
 William Parsons and Mr. Robert Sands. *Sherwood*, Mr. Thomas
 Corah and Mr. John Hicklin.

November 9.—Mr. Richard Morley appointed Mayor; Mr.
 George Bacon, Sheriff.

November 26.—Alarming and destructive fire at the Exchange.
 On the 19th of the September previous, the new transparent
 clock-dial was lighted up with gas, but the piping had been fixed
 with so little discretion that it became ruptured, and on Friday
 night, between nine and ten, it is inferred, from the fact of the
 clock then standing, the work of destruction commenced. The
 prevailing idea was simply that the clock had not been wound up
 as usual, and thus no fears as to the existence of any other cause
 were entertained. No smoke, or flame, or other token of com-
 bustion was observed during the night; and the tenants of the
 shops over which ruin was even then impending retired to rest in
 full security, and awoke at their customary hour, unaware of the
 astounding fact that the Exchange was on fire.

On Saturday morning, about ten minutes past eight, Mr. F.
 Bestow, painter, son of the landlord of the Feathers Tavern
 (adjoining the north side of the large room), waited upon Mr.
 Barnes, the chief constable, who resided on the premises, and told
 him that there was a strong smell of fire in their upper rooms, as
 from burning wood. Proceeding up the narrow winding staircase
 towards the top of the building, they were met by a volume of
 dense and stifling smoke, and saw at once the magnitude of the
 threatened evil. Mr. Griffin, the fire engineer, the Corporation
 surveyor, and Mr. T. Wakefield, the deputy Mayor, were imme-
 diately sent for. In a very short time the alarm became general,
 and the streets and avenues leading to the Market-place were
 crowded with persons anxious to behold the fire, the hurry and
 anxiety of the scene being much increased by its being market-day.
 Those who lived on either side of the large room at once made
 every exertion to save their property. Beds, bedding, furniture,
 drapery and other goods were thrown out of the windows of
 Messrs. Watts, Gresham, Bestow, Darkins, and Judd, and con-

1836 veyed to places of shelter ; and even the butchers began to remove their meat, books, desks, &c., from the Shambles, in great confusion.

In the meantime smoke was seen to issue from the roof, just behind the statue of Justice, but no flame had yet appeared. Several engines had arrived by a quarter-past nine, but then inefficiency, with one exception, was lamentable. The exception was an engine, the hose of which was played by Mr. Griffin, junr., from off the roof of Mr. Darkins' house, which adjoined the large room on the southern side, and this, together with the wind blowing from the south-east, saved that side entirely, with the exception of a small portion of the roof of one room. At about half-past nine, a portion of the ceiling at the west end of the large room fell in, and Mr. Joseph Soar, builder, narrowly escaped with his life. He had been to the long room window, which fronts the Market-place, and had scarcely retired, when a great quantity of burning timber, &c., fell ; and at the time, the general opinion of those in the Market-place was that he was buried in the midst of it. Up to this time, the fire had been so confined between the roof and ceiling of the large room, that it had been impossible to reach it, except in a few places where the slates had been forced off ; but now the flames rose considerably above the parapet, and a dark and heavy mass of smoke ascended. Redoubled efforts were made by those present, and many persons were seen on the roof with various implements, breaking through it to get at the fire. The pipe of another engine had been raised to the top of Mr. Gresham's house ; it had been brought from Pickford's wharf, being on its way from London to Mrs. Sherbrooke, of Oxtou. This engine was directed by Mr. Joseph Stevenson, and did excellent service.

During the whole of this period, the greatest activity was displayed in every direction by persons conveying goods from the Police Office and the adjacent dwellings : order being maintained by special constables, assisted by a detachment of the 6th Carabineers, from the Barracks. The Mayor, the Magistrates, and many of the Town Council were actively engaged in giving directions. About a quarter before ten o'clock, a great portion of the west end of the roof, together with the clock bell (weighing 9cwt. 3qrs.) and works, fell into the large room. Several persons who were within the large window, from which an engine was being played, were much affrighted, and one of them, Mr. John Day, in his hurry to avoid danger, overbalanced himself and laid hold of Mr. Joseph Trueman, in consequence of which they both rolled down the ladder together. The fire now made great progress, and in a very short time a part of the roof of one of Mr. Bestow's rooms fell in. At this period (ten o'clock) the destruction of the whole of the north wing seemed inevitable. A long ladder was now raised in front of Mr. Bestow's, from which Mr. Ashcroft, in conjunction with the director of Mrs. Sherbrooke's engine, was

able in a short time to extinguish the fire in the room last alluded to. But no sooner had this been effected than the roof of the apartment to his right (the ladder being between the two windows) fell in, and the room appeared a mass of fire. This was a perilous moment for him. He had to pass the heavy pipe from one hand to the other, behind his back; the ladder rocked with his weight, and with the least slip he must have been dashed to pieces. He succeeded, and almost immediately extinguished the fire in that room. The Arnold engine arrived about this time, and was brought into operation from the top of Mr. Watts' house. There being now three engines at work upon this point, all appearance of fire in the front was soon extinguished.

The fire was all this time progressing rapidly along the roof, and shortly communicated with the cupola which stands above the balcony. Burning timber continued to fall at intervals, some of which coming in contact with the sides of the room, set fire to the woodwork in some places. The ignited wood of the large room was soon extinguished by the water which, from various points, was thrown upon it. Two small engines were taken up the stairs leading into the great hall, one of which was brought into effectual operation. Another, belonging to Mr. Wilson, of Radford, was played from off the top of the east end of the building, under the direction of some of the soldiers. When the fire communicated with the cupola, it burned slowly but uninterruptedly, and Serjeant Lynch and other active individuals, on the top of the house of Mr. Hall, butcher, Shoe-booth, with a well-supplied engine at their command, vainly endeavour to throw a stream upon it, although their engine was constantly fed with water brought through Mr. Guy's shop, from the plug at the top of Peck-lane. They mounted the chimney, and tried every possible device, the serjeant then pulled off bricks, and threw them upon the slates by the side of the cupola, for the purpose of breaking through, but all without success. At last, a ladder was laid horizontally from the top of the house to the roof of the Exchange; and Mr. J. Tansley and the serjeant went across on their hands and knees, taking along with them a rope by which they pulled up the engine pipe. This task accomplished, the enterprising and courageous individuals were enabled to extinguish the fire, which by this time had extended beyond the cupola. Thousands of spectators, who had been anticipating every moment the fall of the market bell, and the destruction of the cupola, now began to disperse, satisfied that the extremity of the danger was past. At twenty minutes before twelve, the fire was entirely subdued.

At about ten o'clock, the fire was at its height, and it was expected by every one that the whole of the Exchange would be burnt down. Indeed, the alarm was so great that the occupiers of the houses higher up Smithy-row began to pack up their valuables, and to hold themselves in readiness to remove. The windows of the Police office were taken out, and also some other

1836 windows, and carried into Swann's-yard, opposite, for safety. The furniture was also got out, the doors torn down, and everything else that could be removed was carried away in waggons and carts. The books of the Artizans' Library were removed in a waggon.

The utmost promptitude was used in procuring help. Expresses were sent to Mansfield, Loughborough, Derby, and other places for engines. Engines actually set off from Sheffield, but were countermanded before they had travelled far. The Leicestershire and Midland Counties fire engine arrived between one and two o'clock, having been brought from Loughborough, by four post horses, in one hour and ten minutes. This fire engine attracted great attention; the *Review* states that "it is said to be one of the best ever constructed, and so powerful that it can throw up sixty gallons of water per minute, to a height equal to the top of the Exchange."

A little before eleven o'clock, and whilst the fire was raging furiously along the roof of the Exchange-room, great anxiety was felt relative to some ammunition which was known to be stored in the building. The corporation had for a length of time kept for use in case of riot, a number of firearms, and a barrel containing 500 rounds of ball cartridge and three packets of loose powder. This barrel was deposited in a small dark room next the roof, the last but one on the left-hand side of the passage at the top of the back staircase, and close to the cupola. Part of the roof of this small chamber was burnt during the fire. It was well known that the powder was deposited there, but how was it to be removed? It was impossible to approach it by the staircase, and there was no other avenue. In this dilemma, Thomas Wright, Esq., took a labourer on one side, and offered him a sum of money if he would procure the powder, pointing out to him from the Shoe-booth the site of the room where it was deposited. By mounting a ladder placed against the shop of Mr. Attenborough, butcher, No. 1, and drawing it up after them, some labourers succeeded in climbing to the top of the Corn Inspector's office, from whence, by drawing the ladder again up, and rearing it against the Exchange-wall, they entered the window of the room to the east of that in which the barrel was placed. The door was locked, and one of the adventurers had to descend for an instrument to force it open. During this delay, the fire was rapidly approaching the roof of the room. However their companion returned, and they succeeded in forcing the door and entering the passage. They then had to force the door of the dark room, and in their hurry they broke open other doors in the same range of rooms, but ultimately secured their object. There were several persons very active on this occasion, but the barrel was found and carried off in safety by John Sharp, bricklayer, by the same way as that in which he had entered the premises.

The building was insured in the Royal Exchange Fire Office.
November 28.—A fall of rain set in this evening, which con-

tinued with little intermission and with great heaviness till the following afternoon. A large flood was the result, the largest since the snow-flood on the 8th of February, 1831, and within five inches of the elevation of that. 1836

Assembly Rooms, Low-pavement, re-built.

1837.

January 10.—Fatal accident at the Wilford Ferry. Mr. John Oakley, farmer, of Wilford, aged 27 years, and two others, were waiting to cross the water, at seven in the morning, but met with considerable delay, owing to the boat having been clandestinely removed during the night to the opposite side of the river. In this emergency, Mr. Burnham, one of the two, along with Oakley and the ferryman, got into a small boat, above the church, with the intention of crossing; but the "handle" breaking when in the middle of the stream, the boat drifted downward with the current, and was capsized by coming in contact with the ferry chain, which was beneath the surface. Oakley was drowned; but the others struggled to the side. 1837

February 9.—First interment in the General Cemetery.

March 8.—Inquest on the body of Mr. John Sherbrooke Gell, solicitor, of Standard-hill, who, in a temporary attack of mental derangement, had shot himself on the day preceding. Verdict accordingly.

March 8.—A lace piece caught fire at the house of a person named Speed, in Riste-place, Barker-gate, and in the endeavour to extinguish it a girl named Roome was burnt to death, and others very seriously injured. The lace destroyed was valued at £20.

April 25.—Considerable excitement in the town, arising from the following circumstances:—The middlemen in the silk glove trade had been accustomed to receive from the hosiers 5s. per dozen for silk gloves, which sum was shared amongst the various hands employed in their production, in this manner: to the seamer, 9d.; the winder and taker-in, 8d.; the hander, 1s. 7½d.; the fingerer, 1s. 11½d.; making a total of 1s. 5d. to the inferior branches of work, and 3s. 7d. to the makers of the fabric. In many cases, the amount of work given out was limited to two dozen a week per man; but taking two and a half dozen as a fair average, the weekly gross income of each workman would not exceed 8s. 11½d.; the net of which, when 1s. for frame-rent, 3d. for standing, and 3d. for needles, were deducted, left but 7s. 5½d. for the maintenance of the man and his family. This morning, a report was circulated that a large manufacturer was reduced to the necessity of either refusing to give out employment, or abating the price 6d. a dozen. This reduction, 1s. 3d. per week on their scanty earnings, created quite a public disturbance. The work-

1837 men's wives and children congregated in the streets in great numbers, and levied contributions upon the provision shops to a considerable extent. The police had much trouble in restoring peace.

May 1.—Mr. Alderman H. M. Wood appointed surveyor to the Corporation, in the place of Mr. Edward Staveley, deceased.

May 2.—Public meeting at the Exchange to raise a fund for the relief of the widely spread distress amongst the operative classes, arising from an utter prostration of the manufacturing interest. The Mayor presided, and the speakers were J. S. Wright, Esq., Mr. T. Wakefield, Rev. W. J. Butler, Dr. Wilkins, and the Rev. B. Carpenter. The largest subscribers to the fund, which amounted in the whole to about £5,000, were Lord Middleton, Earl Manvers, the Earl of Scarbrough, the Duke of Norfolk, the Duke of St. Albans, the Earl of Lincoln, Lord Ranccliffe, the Dowager Lady Middleton, Lady Sitwell, Lady Warren, Sir J. C. Hobhouse, Sir R. C. Ferguson, Sir R. Sutton, R. Fountayne Wilson, Esq., J. S. Wright, Esq., I. C. Wright, Esq., F. Wright, Esq., S. Smith, Esq. & Co., T. Moore, Esq., F. Robinson, Esq., W. E. Elliott, Esq., Messrs. Hart & Fellows, John Musters, Esq., P. Arkwright, Esq., Mr. R. Morley, Mr. W. Enfield, Mr. J. Heard, Mr. Wm. Hurst, the Rev. J. Burnside, Mr. T. Wakefield, Mr. G. Renshaw, and Mr. C. H. Clarke. Collections were made at all the churches and chapels.

The fund was chiefly expended in setting men with families to work in levelling and repairing the roads, &c., known as St. Ann's-lane, Burton-leys, Back-commons, Red-lane, and Wood-lane, but chiefly in the formation of a new road leading from the Coppice-lodge to Mapperley Common.

May 10.—Mr. Richard Preston and Mr. Nathan Hurst, senr., elected Aldermen, in the place of Mr. Howitt, who had left the town, and Mr. Wood, who had resigned.

May 15.—Mr. Browne, the Coroner, presided at an inquiry into the circumstances attending the death of the Rev. Joseph Rawlins Unwin, a clergyman of the Church of England, who was found drowned in the canal near Sneinton, on the day preceding. The water was not more than four and a half feet deep; and it was conjectured that the reverend gentleman had accidentally fallen into it in the dark.

July 22.—Trial of Thomas Greensmith, before Sir James Allan Park, for the wilful murder of his four children, at Basford.

Greensmith was a labourer, residing at Basford, and the father of four children, named John, William, Ann, and Mark, of the respective ages of 9, 7, 5, and 2 years. On the morning of the 5th of April, they were found by the neighbours, dead, but still partially warm. No one was with them in the house, for Greensmith, who was a widower, had dismissed the woman who kept his house the night before, and had left it at a very early hour, having gone to Lambley, where he was apprehended in the course

of the day. Prisoner made a deposition before Mr. Swann, the Coroner, to the effect that he was driven to the unnatural deed by the conviction that the children, if they lived, would come to want. His pecuniary difficulties were pressing heavily, and his landlord had threatened to seize his goods for arrears of rent.

Being found guilty, he was sentenced to be hung, and for several days it was expected that the sentence would be carried out. Two medical gentlemen, however, Dr. Blake and Mr. H. Attenburrow, were convinced that the man was insane, and such a representation of the case was made to Lord John Russell, then Secretary of State, that his lordship commuted the sentence into perpetual imprisonment. Greensmith was a native of Kimberley, and 35 years of age.

July 24.—Mr. James Cropper, a lace-manufacturer, and a member of the Town Council, was arraigned before Mr. Baron Bolland, and found guilty of wilfully uttering a forged bill, for the payment of £64 12s., with intent to defraud Mr. Edward Boyer and Mr. George Hall. He was sentenced to transportation for life.

July 24 & 25.—Cricket match at Brighton, between the players of Nottingham and Sussex. The Nottingham eleven were Barker, Heath, Garratt, Redgate, Jervis, Guy, Rothera, Crook, Good, Galloway, and Gibson. Sussex won, with three wickets to go down. The score was as follows: Nottingham, 71 and 54. Sussex, 50 and 75.

July 24.—Nomination of candidates to represent the town in Parliament. Mr. Alderman Heard and Mr. Alderman Oldknow proposed General Ferguson; J. S. Sherwin, Esq., and Mr. John Hicklin proposed Wm. Henry Cricheley Plowden, Esq. (Conservative); Lord Ranccliffe and Mr. Thomas Wakefield proposed Sir J. C. Hobhouse; and T. Moore, Esq., and Mr. W. Hannay nominated Horace Twiss, Esq. (Conservative). The show of hands was in favour of the Liberals. The result of the poll the next day was as follows:—

General Sir R. C. Ferguson, G.C.B. ...	2056
Right Hon. Sir J. C. Hobhouse, Bart. ...	2052
W. H. C. Plowden, Esq. ...	1397
Horace Twiss, Esq. ...	1396

Majority—Hobhouse over Plowden, 655.

July 28.—Presentation of a service of plate to Mr. Thomas Wakefield, by the Reformers of Nottingham. The service cost £400, and was above 600 ounces in weight. The centre piece was a magnificent epergne and candelabrum. The presentation took place in a large booth, erected for the purpose in a field adjoining Shaw's-lane, no room in the town being sufficiently capacious. Lord Ranccliffe filled the chair, and speeches were made by his lordship, who presented the gift, Mr. Wakefield, in response, Sir J. C. Hobhouse, General Ferguson, G. S. Foljambe, Esq., Mr. M. D. Hill, and other gentlemen.

1837

August 2.—The Earl of Lincoln and Lancelot Rolleston, Esq., of Watnall, elected for the Southern Division of the county.

August 3 & 4.—Contested election for North Nottinghamshire.

The poll closed as follows :—

Thomas Houldsworth, Esq. ... 1675

Henry Gally Knight, Esq. ... 1575

George Saville Foljambe, Esq. (Whig). 1492

Majority of Knight over Foljambe, 83.

August 21, 22, & 24.—The return match with Sussex was played on the Forest Ground. Clark, Parr, and Foxcroft took the places of Gibson, Crook, and Rothera. Sussex scored 169 and 78; and the men of Sherwood 144 and 80: majority for Sussex, 23. This match was very eagerly contested, and in the first innings of the visitors, the first four wickets were lowered by Barker and Redgate without a run.

August 29.—The Castle-yard was the scene of a brilliant festivity, to celebrate the election of four Conservative members for the county. A large marquee was erected on the green at the western front of the Castle, and two smaller marquees, decorated with blue ribbons, were pitched near the boundary wall overlooking the Park. After dancing and out-door amusements, tea was partaken of in the large marquee, and H. G. Knight, Esq., Col. Rolleston, and Mr. John Hicklin delivered addresses. Dancing was resumed. About three thousand persons joined in the festivity.

October 18.—Presentation of a handsome piece of plate to Mr. Samuel Newham, of the Park, by the members of the Nottingham Chess Club, as a mark of their esteem.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. *St. Ann's Ward*, Samuel Bean and William Sharpe. *Byron*, Daniel Woodhouse and John Rogers. *Castle*, Nathaniel Barnsdall and Thomas Carver. *Exchange*, John Whyatt and Thomas North. *St. Mary's*, Thomas Cullen and Samuel Wakefield. *Park*, Thomas Close and John Birkhead. *Sherwood*, Smith Fowler and John Smith.

November 2.—Richard Wildman, Esq., took the customary oaths upon entering on the office of Recorder.

November 6.—Nottingham Mechanics' Institution formed, when upwards of 600 paid their subscription and became members. John Smith Wright, Esq., was elected president.

November 9.—Mr. Alderman John Heard appointed Mayor; Mr. Benjamin Morley, Sheriff.

December 7.—The number of persons thrown for subsistence upon the poor-rates, greater than ever before known. The enumeration was as follows :—Within the walls of the house, 971. Two hundred men on the roads, with families of four on an average, 1,000. Fed twice a day in a temporary erection on Back Commons, 258. Children fed and educated, 200. Aged, infirm, sick, &c., receiving out-door relief, 1,200. Total relieved from the rates weekly, 3,629; or about one in fourteen of the entire population of the union.

December.—Mr. John Crosby appointed Postmaster, in the place of Mr. White. 1837

1838.

January 20.—The most severe frost since 1814. The thermometer stood in the evening at 6°. The Trent was frozen over, and numbers walked across it. 1838

April 3.—The first stone of the church at Sneinton was laid by Earl Manvers. Archdeacon Wilkins, and the Rev. W. H. Wyatt, M.A., took part in the ceremonial.

May 1.—Mr. George Parkin elected a member of the Town Council for Byron Ward, in the place of Mr. R. Seals, deceased.

June 28.—Coronation festivities. The church bells began to peal at an early hour; and at nine o'clock, a large company of ladies and gentlemen partook of an elegant *déjeuner* at the Exchange Hall, which was very gaily decorated for the occasion. The band of the South Nottinghamshire Yeomanry Cavalry played in the ante-room during the repast. A procession was formed at half-past ten, consisting of the Yeomanry band, a troop of the 9th Lancers, a recruiting party, the mace bearers, the Mayor and Sheriff, the Town Council, inhabitants four abreast, about five thousand children from all the Sunday schools, lodge of Ancient Druids, &c. It proceeded along South-parade, Beastmarket-hill, Long-row, and Pelham-street to the end of Broad-street. Here it divided into parts. The children were conducted to their respective school-rooms, at most of which they were plentifully regaled with roast beef and plum pludding, and subsequently with tea. The military and civil authorities attended Divine service at St. Mary's. At three in the afternoon, the Lancers discharged a *feu de joie* in the Market-place, and the officers joined the Mayor and Town Council in drinking her Majesty's health from the Corporation cup. There were public dinners at almost all the public houses in the town. The principal, as usual, was at the Exchange. The Mayor presided, supported on the right by Sir Charles O'Donnell, and on the left by Captain Fullarton. At night, notwithstanding a request to the contrary, several tradesmen illuminated their windows; and a very brilliant exhibition of pyrotechnics in the Market-place concluded the celebration. The expense of the fireworks, &c., which amounted to £217, was defrayed by public subscription.

July 25.—Mr. Thomas Shipman elected an Alderman, in the place of Mr. Thomas Lowe Bradley, deceased.

September.—An eccentric and aged townsman, Mr. John Wheatley, of Lincoln-street, for some time before his death, had had his coffin made, and well storing it with choice wines and liquors, deposited it in his bedroom. An opportunity now pre-

1838 sending itself, by the opening of the General Cemetery, Derby-road, for a further indulgence in his 'eccentric fancies,' he purchased therein a square piece of ground, the width of three ordinary graves, and had it inclosed, as a comfortable retiring-place, in lieu of a summer-house in a garden, purposing, if his life were spared, to spend many hours there in reading and meditation. On the day above indicated, he went a step further in his preparations, by having his grave dug (five feet of which was solid rock). Here he was wont subsequently to repair, but the novelty of the inclosure and the tenantless grave, attracted so many spectators, that the directors were obliged to suppress the exhibition altogether; and when he died, his remains were buried in one of the burial-grounds in Barker-gate.

September 7.—Wreck of the *Forfarshire* steam-packet, in the Great Hawkerdock, near Bamfrough Castle, on the coast of Northumberland. The vessel was on her passage from Hull to Dundee. Of the persons on board, eighteen were saved, partly through the exertions of the heroic Grace Darling, and forty were drowned. Amongst the latter was Mr. Daft Smith Churchill, of Nottingham. A monument in the General Cemetery commemorates the event.

October 12.—Mr. William North appointed Inspector of Corn Returns.

October 29.—First stone of Wesley Chapel, Broad-street, laid.

November 1.—Municipal elections. *St. Ann's Ward*, John Hedderley and George Yates. *Byron*, William Aulton and H. Frearson. *Castle*, Thomas Wakefield and Alexander Alliott. *Exchange*, Franklin Judd and Thomas Sargent. *St. Mary's*, Richard Morley and Thomas Roberts. *Park*, Dr. Pigott and O. T. Oldknow. *Sherwood*, William Taylor and John Minnitt.

November 9.—Mr. Alderman John Wells appointed Mayor; Mr. Francis Butcher Gill, Sheriff.

At the same meeting of the Town Council, Mr. Wm. Vickers and Mr. Joseph Frearson were elected Aldermen, and Messrs. Aldermen Wells, Shipman, Preston, Newton, and Wilson were re-elected.

Mr. Charles Fellows, brother of the late A. T. Fellows, Esq., banker, this year made the researches in Asia Minor which have redounded so much to his renown, and procured for him not only an honourable position in the esteem of his countrymen, but also the distinction of Knighthood from her Majesty the Queen. Our townsman commenced his tour at Smyrna, and his route lay through that part of Asia Minor called Anadhouly, which includes Lydia, Mysia, Bithynia, Phrygia, Pisidia, Pamphylia, Lycia, and Caria—districts respecting which there was great ignorance in this country, and singularly replete with memorials of their early history: scattered fragments of temples, ruins of numerous theatres and gymnasia, marble sepulchres hewn out of the rocks,

Cyclopean fortifications, and what is perhaps of greater interest, valuable manuscripts of early writers, which, prior to Mr. Fellows's researches, were supposed to be lost irrecoverably. He was the first traveller who penetrated far enough into the interior of the country to discover the remains of Xanthus and Tlos,—two of the chief towns of the Lycian confederacy. 1838

1839.

January 7.—This neighbourhood, in common with a great portion of the kingdom, was visited at an early hour in the morning, by a tremendous gale. It was at its height from two o'clock to about six. The flag-staff and one of the pinnacles of the tower of St. Mary's church were blown away. On the County Hall, a considerable portion of the lead was swept off; and at the Union Workhouse, the roof was likewise bared, one of the windows blown away, and much glass broken. The National School, in High Cross-street, was partly unroofed. A considerable degree of alarm was excited at the General Hospital, in consequence of the fall of a brick wall, on the premises of Mr. Lakin, builder. The chimney-tops at Mr. Carter's, Standard-hill, were carried away, and also part of the roof of the observatory at Mr. W. Goodacre's academy. A fine tree, near the entrance gates of Daniel Freeth, Esq., was blown over. In Charlotte-street, two stacks of chimneys fell upon the roof of Mr. Crafts, baker, and broke through to a chamber, from which two young men had only just risen, crushed the bed in which they had been sleeping, and went through the next floor into the sitting-room. In Byard-lane, a chimney belonging to Mrs. Salthouse fell upon the roof of a warehouse, and broke through, narrowly missing the boy who had just been making the fire. In the Meadows, two hay stacks were completely blown over, and a long wooden fencing, enclosing the Railway Company's land between the Navigation inn and the Tinker's Leen, was torn down. At Sneinton, the new church then erecting received considerable damage. At Radford, a house in Gregory-street was completely stripped of its roof, and much other damage was sustained. At Wilford, one of the noble elms on the Trent bank was torn down, and others were much broken. Everywhere the scattered ruins of roofs, chimneys, stacks, and trees showed the extensive devastation of the storm. At Basford, the same morning, the wind was very violent, and blew down the engine and stove chimneys belonging to Mr. John Brown, bleacher. The engine chimney fell upon some part of the buildings, and did considerable damage to the machinery therein. One of the workmen, named Silas Cross, was at work on the premises, and was very much bruised by part of the building falling upon him, but his recovery was as rapid as could be expected. A great quantity 1839

1839 of slates, tiles, and trees were blown down in different parts of the parish, and great quantities of windows were broken. At Arnold, the wind injured a number of stacks and houses. Mr. Johnson, of Derry-mount, had a new chimney blown upon the roof of his house; it forced a passage through the roof, and some of the bricks grazed the head of a boy in bed, fortunately, however, he was uninjured. At Stapleford, considerable damage was also done.

February 5.—Between eleven and twelve at night, Mr. Isaac Phelps, one of the inspectors of police, was on duty at the top of Carter-gate, when he heard a dog whining as though in pain. He ascertained that the noise proceeded from a large hole prepared for the reception of the weighing-machine then being built. He procured a ladder and a light, and descended for the purpose of releasing the dog; but immediately he got within reach, the animal sprang at him, and severely lacerated his nose. The dog, a pointer, made its escape by running up the ladder, and was never again heard of.

The part bitten was cauterized by a surgeon the same night, the wound healed, and Mr. Phelps continued in his usual state of health until Friday, the 22nd of March, when he was attacked with slight spasmodic twitching in his nose. The next day, he complained of feeling unwell, and when at the watch-house in the evening, he told Mr. Wm. Wood, the keeper, that he feared the thoughts he had entertained some time ago would be realized; for he had symptoms that corresponded with those described in a treatise on hydrophobia which he had read.

The symptoms continued to increase during the next three days, and on the night of the 25th, Phelps went to the watch-house at the regular hour, but complained to Mr. Michael Fisher, the chief superintendent of the night police, that he felt very cold and unwell. Notwithstanding this, he sallied forth on his rounds, but in the course of them had several attacks of giddiness. On Mansfield-road he would have fallen, had he not been supported by Police-constable Joseph Warsop. He thought a little brandy and water might have a reviving tendency, and went into the Carpenters' Arms public-house to procure some; but on attempting to take it, he was seized with a spasmodic attack of suffocation, and could not swallow the liquor: a second attempt was attended with a similar result. Observing the landlord to seem alarmed, Phelps remarked calmly, "I am going mad, but I shall not hurt you; I was bit by a dog seven weeks ago."

The unfortunate man, convinced that he was labouring under the dreadful disease, returned to the watch-house, where Mr. Fisher endeavoured to show him by an experiment how much he was mistaken. He poured water from one vessel to another, in Phelps' presence, without affecting him at all, and then requested him to be determined, and to endeavour, as he could not take brandy, to drink some water. He made an attempt, but when

the glass was about at his lips, he started back, exclaiming, "It's just as if my lungs were coming into my throat. I feel as if I were suffocated." 1839

On medical aid being called in, it was thought advisable to remove him to the General Hospital. Here, Dr. Williams, Dr. Percy, Mr. Attenburrow, and Mr. R. Davison held a consultation, and Phelps was bled. In an hour afterwards, when they were repeating the bleeding, he asked them to lance the other arm, and let him bleed to death, "for they would have to do that at last."

The medical gentlemen having suggested to the Watch Committee that Mr. Charles Waterton, of Walton Hall, should be requested to come over with his South American preparation, called "wourali," which he had recommended as a specific for the disease, an express was immediately sent off. The paroxysms increased in violence, though Phelps continued perfectly sensible to the last, and at about eleven o'clock he breathed his last. Mr. Waterton arrived about six hours after Phelps's death.

A widow and nine children were left to mourn this unhappy bereavement. Their case deservedly excited great sympathy, a practical exhibition of which was given by a public subscription of between five and six hundred pounds.

February 6.—Nottingham Town Mission established.

February 21.—Death of Mr. John Charles Felix Rossi, R.A. This eminent sculptor was born in Nottingham, in 1762, at which time his father was in practice here as a medical man. Young Rossi was apprenticed very early to a sculptor named Luccatella, with whom he also worked as a journeyman. He afterwards went to London, where he entered as a student of the Royal Academy; and in 1781 he obtained the silver medal, and in 1784 the gold one, which entitled him to three years' residence in Rome. He went to Italy in 1785. In 1788 he returned to London. In 1800 he was elected an associate of the Academy, and only two years afterwards, an academician. He was subsequently appointed sculptor to the Prince Regent, and was employed in decorating Buckingham Palace. He was afterwards sculptor to William IV. But he had little to do after the completion of his great public monuments in St. Paul's Cathedral.

Rossi was both a classical and monumental sculptor, and his style was manly and vigorous, especially in his monumental works. Of the first class the following may be mentioned:—A Mercury, marble, executed at Rome; a recumbent figure of Eve, in marble; Edwin and Eleanora; Celadon and Amelia; Zephyrus and Aurora; and Venus and Cupid. A statue of Thomson, the poet, by him, was in the possession of the late Sir Robert Peel; and there is a colossal statue of Britannia on the Exchange at Liverpool.

April 13.—Death of Robert Millhouse, the poet. He was a native of Nottingham; was born on the 14th of October, 1788, and was the second of ten children. His elder brother, John, in

- 1839 a short sketch of the life of Robert, prefixed to a volume of his poems, says, "the poverty of his parents compelled them to put him to work when he was only six years of age: and at ten he was set to work in a stocking-frame." His taste for poetry was developed at the age of 19 years, by reading on a statue of Shakspeare, at the house of a friend, the inscription—"The cloud-capped towers, the gorgeous palaces, the solemn temples, &c.," the beauty and solemnity of which excited in him the highest admiration. He now began to read with eagerness the Plays of Shakspeare, Milton's *Paradise Lost*, Pope's *Essay on Man*, and other poetical works, and also improved his taste by studying some of our best prose writers. In 1810 he enlisted into the Nottingham Militia, and had not been long in that situation before he made an attempt at composition. "I was," says his brother, "agreeably surprised one day, on opening a letter which I had just received from him, at the sight of his first poetical attempt, 'Stanzas addressed to a Swallow,' which was soon followed by a small piece written 'On finding a nest of Robins.'" Shortly afterwards the regiment embarked for Dublin, from whence, in the spring of 1812, he sent his brother several of his effusions, but few of which have been published. Being now desirous of ascertaining whether any of his productions were worthy of being printed, the *Nottingham Review* was selected for that purpose; and in that paper the productions of this ill-fated Child of Genius first appeared. In 1814 the regiment was disembodied, and he again returned to the stocking-frame, and for several years entirely neglected composition. In 1817 he was placed on the staff of his old regiment, then called the Royal Sherwood Foresters; and in the following year he married. The cares of providing for a family now increasing his necessities, he turned his thoughts to publishing, and, not having sufficient already written, he resolved to attempt something of more importance than he had hitherto done; and in February, 1819, he began the poem of "Vicissitude," an arduous undertaking for an uneducated person, who was also depressed with poverty, borne down with ill-health, and compelled to devote those hours to composition which ought to have been allotted to sleep. But what difficulties and obstacles will not the Man of Genius surmount? By the end of October, 1820, poor Millhouse completed his work, which was approved of by Colonel Cooper Gardiner, who, with those benevolent feelings by which he was so much distinguished, exerted himself to promote the welfare of the poet, and succeeded in procuring the valuable patronage of the then Duchess of Newcastle. The fate of the poet is now shortly to be told: he struggled hard to maintain a large family, and produced several volumes of poetry, which bear the impress of genius, strong talent, and a reflective and discriminating mind. Unhappily, the latter portion of his life was one of anxious thought, privations, and difficulties: he possessed a few warm friends, who exerted themselves to relieve his wants; but, after

suffering from a long illness, at length he breathed his last, at his residence in Walker-street, Sneinton, leaving a wife and three children, the youngest of whom was not twelve months old, totally unprovided for. His remains were interred at the General Cemetery, Derby-road.

April 30.—The Duke of Newcastle dismissed from the office of Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the county, for having addressed an insolent letter to Lord Chancellor Cottenham, in reply to a notification from the Lord Chancellor that he was about to include the names of Major Warrand and C. Paget, Esq., in the commission of the peace. His Grace was succeeded by the Earl of Scarbrough.

May 10.—Destructive fire on the premises of Messrs. Hudson & Bottom, lace dressers, Sneinton. In addition to their old rooms, the enterprising firm had erected dressing-rooms three stories high, of considerable dimensions, which, with a starch-room and dye-house, formed an entire building, just brought into full use. It was in this building that the fire broke out, about one at noon, owing, as it was supposed, to the overheating of the flues. The engines arrived in about three-quarters of an hour, but from the ascendancy the flames had acquired, and the scarcity of water, it was seen that any attempt to save the new erection was vain, and every exertion was immediately directed to the old premises, upon which flakes of fire were falling with great rapidity. These efforts were successful, though not without the most energetic measures being adopted. At three o'clock, the roof and a great part of the outer walls of the new building fell in. The firemen had now a better opportunity of plying their vocation, and in the course of three hours, extinguished every appearance of fire. The dye-house was the part of the building least injured.

May 30.—Public opening of the Midland Counties Railway, between Nottingham and Derby. The first train, consisting of the directors and their friends, set out from the Nottingham station.

June 30.—Opening services at Wesley chapel, Broad-street. The Rev. J. Beaumont, M.D., preached morning and evening, and Mr. William Dawson in the afternoon. The collections during the three services amounted to £642. The building cost £8,800.

July 1.—Royal assent given to an act for enclosing 29 acres of land on the south side of the town, known as the West Croft; 1 acre of a meadow called the Sweet Leys; and 4 acres on the north side of the town, called Burton Leys, on the Mansfield-road. Of this land, the Corporation had 14 acres awarded to them, and the Burgesses 7 acres, thereby fully establishing a separate claim of the Burgesses under the New Corporation. The remainder was sold by the Commissioners to pay expenses. The Midland Railway Co. purchased 4,000 yards of the Burgesses' allotment, at 8s. per square yard.

July 31.—During this and two following days, Nottingham Meadows and the fields above, below, and beyond presented to the

1839 eye almost one sheet of water, the Trent having overflowed its banks, and deluged the adjacent country. The flood was about the same height as those of July 1828, February 1831, and December 1836; but fourteen inches short of the one which occurred on the 14th of October, 1824.

July 31.—Execution of John Driver, in front of the County Gaol, for the murder of Ann Hancock.

This criminal was 26 years of age, and a native of Southwell, as was also his mother, who removed to Caunton, when Driver was a child. He was brought up in ignorance, and his employment at the time of the murder was that of a field labourer.

In the village of Caunton, lived an aged woman of the name of Hancock, who vended miscellaneous articles, such as groceries, drugs, &c.; and from information adduced at the inquest, it appeared that Mrs. Hancock had been the unintentional instrument of taking away his father's life. About a month previous to the murder, the father of Driver was taken ill, and the mother went to Mrs. Hancock's shop to purchase some tincture of rhubarb. By some unaccountable mistake, laudanum was sold instead, and the old man died from its effects; and although the coroner exonerated the murdered woman from blame, the Drivers cherished the most deadly hatred against her; the mother particularly urging the son to revenge his father's "murder," as she called it.

The trial took place before the Right Hon. Lord Abinger, on the 19th of July. It was submitted in evidence that Mrs. Hancock was last seen alive, in her own house, at about half-past nine on the evening of the 15th of March. At eight the next morning, she was found in her chamber, partly out and partly in bed, as if she were sitting, but quite dead, and with a duster or piece of rag stuffed down her throat. She had evidently been strangled. The boxes and drawers in the room were all open, and such of their contents as had not been taken away were found very much disarranged.

Suspicion having fallen upon Driver, he was apprehended on the same day, by Mr. John Etches, a constable of Newark. He was at work in a field, and Etches, accompanied by the Rev. J. D. Becher, took him into a farm-house and examined him. Mr. Becher asked him if he wore a watch. He said, "Yes, but he hadn't it with him; he had left it at home." Mr. Becher said, "You have not one in your pocket now?" The reply was "No." He was next asked if he had any money in his pocket, the response was, "sixpence." Upon searching, however, Etches found in his pockets, fifty-five halfpence, sixteen pennies, two shillings, two silver watches, and other articles. The watches were identified as the property of the murdered woman, and there being other evidence of a corroborative nature, the jury had no hesitation in pronouncing the prisoner guilty.

August 12, 13, & 14.—The Nottingham Chartists, agreeably to the direction of a "National Convention," kept their notable

"three days' holiday." Under the leadership of a Mr. James Woodhouse, several hundreds, chiefly framework knitters, assembled on the 12th (Monday), in the Market-place, and after parading the town in order, four abreast, marched to the Forest, where Woodhouse addressed them, and besought them to meet again the next day in greater numbers. Those who had arms were told not to leave them at home. The meeting was dispersed by the arrival of the Mayor and several of the borough and county Magistrates, along with Sir Charles Napier and Sir Chas. O'Donnell, (the two Generals of the district, of which Nottingham was the head-quarters), Sir Maxwell Wallace (Colonel of the 5th Dragoons), and Captain Sullivan (of the Rifles); but not before Thomas Nixon, Esq., of Nuttall, was grossly insulted and pelted with stones. The Dragoons were drawn up and ready for action in front of the Windmill tavern, had their services been required. Thus ended the first day.

On the second, the authorities were again extremely vigilant, and dispersed several meetings, which the Chartists attempted to hold in various parts of the town; but not without much difficulty, for the mob, driven from one place, speedily rallied in another, and kept the magistrates, police, special constables, and military in perpetual movement till near twelve o'clock at night.

Early on Wednesday, the third day, Woodhouse was apprehended at his house in Hyson Green, and was escorted to the Town Gaol by a company of Riflemen. The Chartists attempted to meet on Mapperley Plains, but rain descending heavily and with little prospect of cessation, the last day's holiday passed away in quietness.

Woodhouse was brought before Lord Denman, at the following March Assizes, along with Jonathan Barber, Joseph Wright, and Thomas Legge, three of his political associates, but they were discharged from custody on entering in recognizances to appear again when called on.

September 26.—Opening of the new church at Sneinton, and consecration of the addition to the burial-ground, by the Bishop of Lincoln. The church will seat 720 persons. This was on the occasion of his lordship's first episcopal visit to Nottinghamshire. On the 27th, he re-opened St. Mary's, after considerable alterations.

October 25.—Commemoration of the Wesleyan Centenary. Services were held in Halifax-place and Wesley chapels, conducted by the Rev. G. Marsden and the Rev. T. Walker; and in the school-rooms under the former upwards of eleven hundred persons partook of tea.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. *St. Ann's Ward*, John Keely, junr., and William Felkin; *Byron*, Richard Sutton and George Parkin; *Castle*, John Nunn and John Harrison; *Exchange*, Edward Wood and Thomas Bailey; *St. Mary's*, William Potter and George Atkinson; *Park*, Robert Sands and William Parsons; *Sherwood*, Benjamin Goodhead and William Blackwell.

1839 *November 9.*—Mr. William Roworth appointed Mayor ; Mr. Jonathan Neville, Sheriff.

November 13.—Mr. John Butler elected a member of the Town Council for St. Ann's Ward, in the place of Mr. John Keely, who had refused to qualify. The Council now consisted of 50 Liberals and 6 Conservatives.

December 19.—Opening of the Wesleyan Association chapel, Kent-street. The sermons were preached by the Rev. H. L. Adams, of Newark.

December 27.—Mr. Edwin Patchitt appointed Clerk to the newly formed Court of Requests.

Another of those periodic seasons of distress, induced by a general depression of the industrial interests of the district, plunged the town into a state of acute suffering. It commenced in the autumn of this year, and continued until the following spring. The applications for relief from the poor-rates became so numerous towards the end of November, that the Board of Guardians were compelled to find out-door labour for able-bodied applicants with families of children. On the 26th of that month, sixty of them were set to work on the new road near the Coppice-lodge ; and the Mayor, who exerted himself very nobly and successfully in furnishing relief from private sources, prepared a list of 367 men, unemployed by the Guardians, who, with their wives and children, amounting to more than a thousand persons, were found literally starving. In the course of another week, the list was frightfully increased.

From a calculation made on the 6th of December, it was ascertained that 3,481 persons were receiving relief, in some shape or other, from the poor-rates of the Nottingham Union. The classification was as follows:—Inmates of the workhouse, 541 ; recipients of out-door relief, 1,367 ; 120 men employed on the roads, with their families, 640 ; 152 pensioners, with their families, 670 ; children fed and taught in the school, but sleeping with their parents out of the house, 150 ; and persons supplied daily with a dinner, 113. A public meeting was held in the Exchange Hall, Dec. 7, the Mayor in the chair, at which it was resolved to raise a subscription for the purpose of affording employment to those out of work, such as should not interfere with the ordinary course of labour. The speakers were Sir Charles Napier, I. Wright, Esq., J. Smith Wright, Esq., Messrs. R. Morley, T. Wakefield, and W. Felkin. This subscription amounted to the sum of £3425 10s. 9d., and was expended as follows:—Wages to men employed on the Race-course, Mapperley-hills, and other places, with superintendents and clerks, £1758 12s. 10d.; for tools and repairing, £66 12s. 3d.; incidental expenses, including coals, rent, candles, advertising, and stationery, £57 4s. 11d.; bread, distributed by district visitors, £1069 5s. 9d.; potatoes, £366 7s. 6d.; and blankets and sheets, £107 7s. 7d. The relief committee, of which the Mayor was chairman, completed its labours in March, 1840.

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January.—The authorities, in anticipation of an insurrectionary movement, adopted precautionary measures. From the 10th to the 17th of this month, the Mayor and Magistrates were in almost constant attendance at the Police Office, in order that if any outbreak took place, no difficulty might arise from the absence of a repressive directory. The troops were under arms every evening, and piquets of Dragoons traversed the town and its environs during the hours of darkness. The Rifle Brigade were also in readiness to act at a moment's notice; but the tranquillity of the town was not disturbed. 1840

January 10.—Commencement of the penny postage of letters. Under the old system the postage to London was 10d.; to Birmingham, 8d.; to Manchester, 8d.; to Leicester, 6d.; to Derby, 5d.; to Mansfield, 4d.; and to other places in proportion.

March 19.—Death of Alexander Manson, Esq., M.D., F.R.S., at Darley Dale, aged 66 years. He had served thirteen years in the Royal Navy, and was at the capture of Martinique. Subsequently, for 30 years, he practised as a physician in Nottingham, with eminent success.

April 21.—Institution of the Nottinghamshire Rural Police.

April 23.—The corner-stone of Trinity church was laid, with the usual ceremonials, by John Smith Wright, Esq. The plate affixed to it bore the annexed inscription:—"The corner-stone of this church, erected by subscription, and to be dedicated to the Holy Trinity, was laid on Thursday, the 23rd day of April, 1840, by John Smith Wright, Esq. The Venerable John Henry Brown, Archdeacon of Ely; John Pemberton Plumpton, Esq., M.P., Robert Ramsden, Esq., and Francis Wellford, Esq., Trustees; Henry Isaac Stevens, Architect. *Ephesians* ii. 19—22."

May.—An elegant soup tureen of silver, 200oz. weight, was presented to General Ferguson. On one side of it were classical civic devices, inscribed "Magna Charta" and "Bill of Rights," with the armorial bearings of the General; and on the other, were the arms of the town of Nottingham, and the subjoined inscription:—"Presented by the Friends and Constituents of General Sir Ronald Crauford Ferguson, K.G.C.B., Colonel of the 79th Highlanders, and Representative in Parliament for the Town of Nottingham, in testimony of their great respect for his private worth, and in grateful remembrance of his public services." Messrs. R. Morley, J. Heard, and T. Wakefield were the gentlemen through whose exertions it was chiefly that the testimonial was subscribed for. The General, in a letter returning thanks, said, "from the bottom of my heart I thank all the subscribers for their generous kindness, and can assure them that, when I am

1840 gone, their gift will be guarded by my family, as the highest honour ever conferred upon their father."

June 8.—Opening of the Nottingham Mechanics' Exhibition, which occupied the noble suite of the Exchange Rooms, lengthened by the addition of a massive wooden building, extending through the large window partly over the Market-place, and presenting a range of 180 feet. At half-past ten in the forenoon, a public procession was formed at the Guildhall, as follows:—Band of the 7th Dragoon Guards, officers of the Mechanics' Institution, several Magistrates, the Mayor and Corporation, with their gold and silver maces, the committee, and a number of gentlemen. The gentlemen forming the procession were welcomed on their arrival by the pealing strains of an organ, and three times three hearty cheers. The exhibition was one of the most attractive ever witnessed in Nottingham. Its prominent features were a superb collection of paintings, statuary, antiquities, architectural models, machinery, and specimens of natural history; the whole presenting, especially when illuminated, a most brilliant and enchanting sight.

The exhibition continued open until Wednesday, November 4th, when it was closed with a grand concert. The total number of visitors was 125,544, and the receipts at the doors, £2,974.

June 15 & 16.—Cricket match at Brighton, between Nottingham and Sussex. The Nottingham players were Mr. Patchitt, Mr. Foxcroft, Mr. Creswell, Mr. T. B. Charlton, Mr. T. B. Redgate, and Clark, Barker, Guy, Garratt, Parr, and Redgate. The score was as follows: Sussex, only innings, 225; Nottingham, 104 and 62.

June 18 & 19.—From Brighton the Nottingham players (with the exception of Mr. Patchitt, for whom Mr. Johnson was substituted) proceeded to Town Malling, to contend with the flower of Kent. Here they amply retrieved their misfortunes; for while at Brighton the Sussex men obtained an easy conquest, at Town Malling our townsmen defeated, with nearly an innings to spare, a Kentish eleven that included eight players who in the previous season had themselves successfully contented with all England. Kent scored 88 and 120, and Nottingham 203 and 6.

July 16.—A large public meeting of ratepayers, convened by the Mayor, was held in the Town Hall, on the subject of a proposed new union poorhouse. The proposition for such erection was very strongly condemned, the speakers being Messrs. J. Brewster, R. Sutton, R. S. Maples, T. Bishop, T. H. Smith, and J. Whyatt.

This was the commencement of an agitation that led ultimately to an important change in the political aspect of the town. The New Poor Law, it must be borne in mind, was extremely unpopular with probably nine-tenths of the local population: its stringent enactments, the compulsory in-door test, the separation of man and wife, the parting of mothers and children, the "skilly" diet, &c., were all so different from the former Elizabethan system,

that they were looked upon as most obnoxious; and directly it was intimated that the Board of Guardians contemplated the erection of a new house, with the view, as was alleged, of carrying the new law into full operation, the utmost indignation was expressed, and the present meeting the result. 1840

The Guardians, however, who were chiefly of the Whig party, spurred on by their clerk, Mr. Barnett, and by communications from Somerset House, felt it their duty to persevere in their intention; but having every possible impediment thrown in their way, the only piece of land they could secure for their purpose, was the site subsequently known as Sherwood Rise.

This site being in the county, and completely out of the Union, had a tendency to still more heighten the general dissatisfaction; and on the 24th of August, another public meeting of ratepayers was held in opposition to the project, in the Guildhall. The Mayor again presided, and the chief speakers were the Rev. W. J. Butler, and Messrs. T. Bishop, R. Sutton, T. Knight, J. Brewster, B. Goodhead, and G. Whitehead. Resolutions calling upon the Guardians to heed the voice of public opinion and desist from their purpose were unanimously adopted.

On the 25th, the Guardians, who were not to be moved by what they regarded as a mistaken opposition, passed a resolution to immediately purchase the ten acres of land, situate in the Radford and Lenton parishes, and proceed with the erection. The gentlemen thus courageous, were Messrs. Carter, Eddison, Carver, Vickers, Herbert, Blackwell, Chamberlain, Dunn, Leake, Forth, and Roome.

The land was accordingly purchased of Lord Chesterfield, and the union poorhouse would assuredly have been built there had not the Corporation interfered. The Town Council, however, at a special meeting on the 18th of September, agreed to offer them the site on Back Commons as a substitute; and here the new Union Workhouse was erected in 1841, at a cost of £17,500, for 1,150 paupers. The front of the building is a large brick structure, consisting of a centre and two wings 363 feet long. Including the yard the house covers an enclosed area of three acres; it is lighted by three hundred windows. The governor's apartments and the stores are in the centre of the building. The dining-hall, which is capable of seating 700, is used as a chapel.

The remembrance of the pertinacity with which the Whig Guardians adhered to their project, long survived their term of office in the minds of many of the inhabitants; and contributed greatly not only to an entire change of the political complexion of the Board, but also to the success of Mr. Walter at the next Parliamentary election.

July 22.—Her Majesty Queen Adelaide visited Nottingham, on her way from Belton House, in the county of Lincoln, to Harewood, near Leeds. The Royal *cortège*, consisting of three carriages, with an escort of Dragoons, in its progress along the

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Flood-road, Canal-street, and over the Navigation-bridge, to the Railway Station (now the Midland Goods Station), was attended by an immense body of spectators. At the Station, which had been decorated for the occasion, the Royal party, consisting of the Queen, Dowager, her sister, the Duchess of Devonshire, and their attendants, Earl Howe, the Earl of Denbigh, the Earl of Sheffield, the Countess of Sheffield, the Hon. Miss Eden, &c., were received by the Mayor and Colonel Kennedy, both of whom were introduced to the Queen by Earl Howe, and had the honour of conversing with Her Majesty in a private reception room, for some minutes. Her Majesty remained in the Station about half an hour. Great numbers had been admitted by ticket into the Station-yard, and on Her Majesty passing along the platform to take her seat in the carriage, she was cheered with great enthusiasm.

On July 28th & 29th. The return match against Sussex was played on the Trent-bridge ground. The players were the same, with the exception that Sir Isaac took the place of Mr. Foxcroft. Sussex again proved victorious, scoring 145 and 133, and Nottingham's 85 and 99.

On November 1st. The Municipal elections. For *St. Andrew's Ward*, T. H. Smith and John Hickling; *St. Andrew's Whitechurch Ward*, Wm. Baldock; *St. Andrew's John Brewster* and N. Barnhill; *St. Andrew's Thomas Noyk* and John Whyatt; *St. Mary's*, R. Colles and S. Wakefield; *St. Peter's*, T. Cross and J. Birkhead; *St. Martin's*, Smith, Fowler and John Smith.

On November 9th. The election of Mayor was attended by an extraordinary incident. Mr. Alderman Heath rose in the usual course, and nominated Mr. Richard Preston, the gentleman, upon whom the Liberal Councillors had privately agreed to confer the dignity, and the proposition was seconded by Mr. W. Felkin. Mr. Brewster, of the Conservative side of the Hall, rose and objected: Mr. Preston, he maintained, was not entitled to be on the Burgess list, having ceased to occupy the premises that had given him the qualification; and consequently, by the 28th section of the Municipal Act, would certainly be ousted from office, even if elected. Surprise, confusion, and laughter pervaded the Hall; and the leading Councillors of both parties retired behind the jury box and other places, and held private conferences. The interruption was at length broken by Mr. T. Bailey (Conservative), who wound up a long and exciting speech, in which he called upon the Council to no longer be the dupes of party, by nominating Mr. H. Percy. Mr. Percy, however, declined the honour, and proposed that Dr. Pigott be elected Mayor; but the Doctor, who appeared much surprised, expressed his great unwillingness to serve the office. Business was thus again brought to a stand, and after further delay, in the course of which Mr. T. Wakefield was seen to be

* This election was declared invalid, owing to the circumstance of there being no presiding Alderman; and Mr. J. Birkhead and Mr. H. Percy were subsequently returned.

urging the Doctor to consent, the nomination was seconded by Mr. J. Hedderley. Dr. Pigott rose, and nominated Mr. Joseph Frearson. Mr. Frearson begged that the motion might not be seconded. Mr. Preston's name was then withdrawn, and that of the Doctor being put to the Council, was approved of unanimously. Dr. J. M. B. Pigott, amidst loud laughter, removed unwillingly to the bench, made the requisite declaration, and took his seat as Mayor. At the same meeting, Mr. Thomas Roberts, junr., was elected Sheriff.

November 12.—Mr. James Hitchins, the Coroner of Lincoln, very nearly fell a victim to a covert attempt at murder. He was undergoing a term of imprisonment in the County Gaol, for having been connected with certain malpractices at a recent Newark election, and was accustomed to receive presents from his private friends and political sympathisers. Early this morning he received from London, a parcel containing a large plum cake. About eleven o'clock, he ate a small portion of the cake, taking also a glass of wine. Soon afterwards he was seized with a violent sickness, accompanied by acute pain at the stomach, a burning sensation in his throat, cold perspirations, and a partial contraction of the limbs. Mr. Attenburrow, the gaol surgeon, was in immediate attendance, and by the application of prompt remedies, succeeded in saving Mr. Hitchins' life; but it was many months ere he recovered anything like his usual health and vigour. Mr. Attenburrow submitted a piece of the cake to a careful analysis, and detected so considerable a quantity of arsenic, that, if distributed throughout the whole in an equal proportion, the loaf must have contained upwards of two ounces. The guilty party, though strongly suspected, was never brought to justice. The Secretary of State thought proper, however, to at once release Mr. Hitchins from custody.

November 17.—Mr. Edmund Percy elected a Councillor for St. Ann's Ward, in the place of Mr. Hicklin, who had neglected to qualify.

November 26.—Mr. F. E. Shipley elected into the Council for Exchange Ward, in the place of Mr. E. Wood.

During this year an Act of Parliament was passed to enclose about 18 acres of land, called the "Lammas Field," lying between the Park and Derby-road, in the parish of St. Mary. On this piece of land have been erected the Catholic Church, with houses for the Bishop and Priests; a Nunnery, with schools attached; St. Thomas's Church; the Particular Baptist Chapel and Schools; the Scotch Baptist Chapel; the Albert Hall; the People's College; and a Reservoir and works in connection with the Waterworks Company.

1841 New Poor Law, than which nothing was ever more unpopular amongst the bulk of the working-people. Mr. Walker appeared as its great opponent, and upon the head of Mr. Walker for the Government, as the populace called it, the weight of the opposition was thrown.

1841 February 10.—Presentation of a piece of plate to Mr. Wm. Roworth, the ex-Mayor, as a testimony of the regard entertained for him by the working-classes. The Town Hall was crowded by an enthusiastic assemblage, presided over by an operative named White. The testimonial, a silver goblet, was formally presented by Mr. Joseph Buttage, who remarked that it was a pleasing feature in Mr. Roworth's character, that while he maintained the majesty of the law, he had a truly feeling heart for the poor and the oppressed.

February 11.—In the course of the excavations for the yards of the new poor-house, human bones were uncovered in great numbers, along with fragments of stonework, parts of a pavement of glazed tiles, several brass rings, a large stone coffin, and other antiquities. They were found principally in raising the soil from the top end of the yard next to Woodborough-road, and by tradition had long pointed out this as the site of the ancient church and burial-ground of St. Michael, but the absence of documentary proof, the fact had been received with a degree of suspicion. Such doubt was now dispelled. The church is understood to have been demolished in the reign of Edward III. The bones, considering that they must have lain in the soil at least six hundred years, were surprisingly perfect.

April 10.—Death of Sir R. C. Ferguson, M.P., aged 72 years. The gallant General entered the army as an ensign in 1790, and attained the rank of Major-General in 1808. On several occasions he distinguished himself as a good soldier and most able leader; but in the midst of his brilliant career in the Peninsula, he was compelled by a severe indisposition, in which his life was in imminent danger, to withdraw for a time from active service. He served in Flanders, as Captain, in 1793, and received a wound in the knee. He was at the first and second capture of the Cape of Good Hope, and received a medal for the action at Relais and Vankier, where he commanded a brigade as Major-General. By his death, the Colonelcy of the 79th Regiment of Foot, or Cameron Highlanders, became vacant.

April 26.—Nomination of candidates to supply the vacancy in the representation of the town, occasioned by the death of General Ferguson. John Walter, Esq. (Conservative), was nominated by Mr. Wm. Roworth and Mr. T. B. Charkton; and Genl. G. de H. Larpent, Esq. (Liberal), by Lord Rantliffe and Mr. F. Hart. The show of hands was in favour of the former. The nomination was one continued scene of riot, fighting, and violence, and neither Mr. Larpent nor his supporters could obtain a hearing. The topic upon which this election seemed to hinge was this

New Poor Law, than which nothing was ever more unpopular amongst the bulk of the townspeople. Mr. Walter appeared as its great opponent; while upon the head of Mr. Larpent (or "the Serpent," as the populace called him), as the representative of the Whig party, rested the full weight of the odium with which the law was regarded. This feverish state of things was eagerly taken advantage of, and the symptoms were much aggravated by the publication of a daily sheet, entitled *Hodge Podge*, in this production, everything that could exert a denigrating influence upon the prospect of Mr. Larpent's election was eagerly inserted, and being conducted by one of the literary staff of *The Times*, of which Mr. Walter was chief proprietor, it served its purpose with great efficiency. A rival publication, of like character, called the *Bearwood Chronicle*, was issued by the Liberals, but not being conducted with equal ability, nor having so captivating a party organ as that furnished by the obnoxious poor-law, its influence was comparatively feeble. Known to its supporters as *Walter's* and to its opponents as *Larpent's*, it was also a serious defection from the Liberal ranks. Messrs. Rowntree, J. B. Dingley, E. P. Cook, G. Whitehead, and other gentlemen who had hitherto always voted with the Whigs, now threw the whole weight of their influence into the scale of the opposite party, and were followed by Mr. J. Sweet and nearly the whole of the Chartists, who had not yet found their way to the poll. The poll was taken on the 27th at four in the afternoon, when it closed, the numbers were as follows:—Walter, 1962; Larpent, 1745: majority for Mr. Walter, 217.

The Hon. Member was received at noon the following day. The number of spectators and the quantity of blue ribbon displayed were great beyond precedent. The triumphal car was covered with blue silk, and had blue and purple tassels. It was shaped like a shell, mounted on a carriage body painted blue, and drawn by four grey horses, with postillions in blue and pink. The route taken was from the George and Vain, along Rother Street, the Long Row, Beeston Market Hill, South Parade, High Street, Clumber Street, Parliament Row, and George Street, back to the inn. On June 2, a Conservative festival in the Castle-yard, to celebrate the return of Mr. Walter. The arrangements, including the erection of three spacious marquees, seats and tables, umbrellas, bars for refreshments, and in short, everything that could minister to gaiety or comfort. Several thousand persons were present, and the day being fine, the flags and banners and the gay dresses and smiling faces, presented an enchanting spectacle. After tea addresses were given by Mr. Walter, Mr. Tye, Mr. Chadton, Mr. Hicklin, and the Rev. W. J. Butler. Dancing, singing, and games of various kinds were then indulged in till a late hour. On June 11, the Foundation stone of Lenton Church laid. On June 14, a dissolution of Parliament plunged the town into another determined and exciting contest. The Conservative candidates were John Walter, Esq. of Bearwood, and Thomas B.

1841

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1841 Charlton, Esq., of Chilwell; and the Liberals, Sir J. C. Hobhouse, Bart., and G. C. de H. Harpout, Esq.

The White was received on the 24th, and in the afternoon of that day, the Liberal candidates made a public entry into the town, from the London road. They were attended by several hundred gentlemen on horseback, and a countless number of people, with flags, banners, and bands of music. On alighting at the White Lion Inn, Sir J. C. Hobhouse, Mr. Harpout, and Lord Ranelagh delivered addresses from one of the windows. The noble Lord commenced by "congratulating the men of Nottingham on having come back to their senses."

On Saturday, the 26th, a similar demonstration of their strength and numbers was made by the Conservatives. This procession was not so numerous as the other, but included a greater number of horsemen. It was formed at six o'clock, near the George IV. inn, and paraded the principal streets. Mr. Walter, Mr. Charlton, and Mr. Hicklin then gave addresses from the windows of the inn. Among other subjects in the procession, which attracted marked attention and excited much amusement, were burlesque representations of the three Poor-law Commissioners—three men (designated by inscriptions on their dresses) wearing masks, wigs, fools' caps, and yellow vests, and having most ridiculous paunches, as if "with fat upon lined;" mounted on donkeys, with a serving man (a relieving officer) in attendance, doing out "skilly" from a yellow bowl.

The popular cry of the Conservative section of the lower classes at this election, was "skilly and no basille," which was met by the opposing section, with, "Cheap bread and no corn law."

The number of "lambes" was great beyond precedent. Some enlisted under the Blues; and others entered the service of the Yellow. No estimate can be formed of the entire number, but certainly there were several hundreds on each side. These were under the leadership of captains, and were quartered in the back premises of public houses. At the word of command, out they would daily, night or day, to discharge any task assigned them, whether it were the abduction of a voter, the seizure of a flag of the hostile camp, the demolition of windows, or any other riotous proceeding. These ruffians received good wages, and were supplied with as much drink as they chose.

Monday, the 28th, was the day of nomination. To secure a free passage for their side to the hustings, the Yellow lambes assembled in Smithy-row, between nine and ten o'clock, in great numbers; and the Blue innocents coming up in strong force immediately after, for the same purpose, a determined struggle was the consequence. Fists, short sticks, and yellow and blue handkerchiefs inclosing stones, were vigorously used; and the contest ended in the Blues being driven from the field, with sundry broken

Children workhouses in vulgar parlance were bastards.

1841
1851

heads and injured limbs. But the triumph of the Yellow ruffians was but of short endurance. Intelligence was transmitted to the George IV., and a numerous party of country gentlemen rode down Pelham-street in military order, three deep, backed by the discomfited but now re-emboldened lambs, rode deliberately through the opposing ranks, and on one of their number being insulted, turned their horses and struck right and left with formidable sticks, for several minutes. The Yellow lambs retaliated, and punished several of the horsemen very severely, and there is no knowing to what extremities the conflict might have been carried; but just as the lambs had succeeded in getting up a few of the granite stones to hurl at the heads of their adversaries, the 3rd Dragoons hastened up, and drove both parties away.

While these proceedings were going on, the candidates and their leading supporters had entered the Exchange Hall. Sir J. C. Hobhouse was nominated by E. Hart, Esq. and Mr. J. Heard. J. Walter, Esq. was proposed by Mr. W. Parsons and Mr. J. Wild. G. Larpent, Esq. by Mr. T. Wakefield and Mr. S. Bean, and T. B. Charlton, Esq. by Mr. E. Percy and Mr. Munk. As none of the speakers could obtain a hearing, the nomination was quickly over, the Sheriff declaring the show of hands in favour of the Liberals. Mr. Walter, in retiring from the Hall by the Police Office steps, had his pocket picked of his purse.

In the course of the afternoon the military were twice called out to suppress fights between bodies of rival lambs, the police finding themselves quite unable to effectually interfere. In one instance, in which the police attempted to suppress a violent attack upon a Liberal committee room at the top of the Black Boy yard, the Blue roughs pelted them so unmercifully with stones that several were much injured, and the whole obliged to take refuge in Mr. Cullen's yard, where they remained in a state of siege for some time.

During the night, the electioneering agents were hunting up stray voters. Hundreds of electors passed the entire night in drinking and smoking at their candidates' expense, in the numerous "open" houses on each side.

At five o'clock the next morning the Liberals marshalled their forces, and sallied forth to take possession of the poll-booths. Very ominously, but few Conservatives were seen stirring, and though, as time rolled on, their vehicles began to bring in electors from the country districts, none of their leaders were visible, and the subordinates evidently appeared disconcerted. Their poll and check clerks, however, took their places; but at eight o'clock, suddenly withdrew, and a deafening shout immediately announced that the Blue candidates had declined going to the poll. Still the polling went on for an hour, many being incredulous as to the fact of the resignation, and others voting simply because they were in the booths for that purpose. But the Sheriff then closed the poll, and on casting up the numbers found them to be as follows:—

1841 G. G. de H. Larpent, 529; Sir J. C. Hobhouse, 527; John Wal-
ter, sear., 144; Thomas B. Charlton, 142.

The successful candidates were chaired in the afternoon, with more than ordinary display. The procession was of very great length, and the flags, banners, festoons, and devices were more numerous than on any previous occasion.

July 5.—Election for South Nottinghamshire. The Earl of Lincoln and Colonel Rolleston were returned without opposition.

July 6.—Thos. Houldsworth, Esq., and Henry Gally, Knight, Esq., were elected for the Northern Division.

August.—The point of St. Peter's church spire needing repairs, Mr. Samuel Hall, stonemason, of Chesterfield-street, undertook the performance without the expense of scaffolding. He reared a ladder from the top of the tower, and having secured it with iron staples, fastened another in like manner above it, and so on till he reached the apex. Here he secured another ladder as a standing place on the opposite side, so as to admit of two men working at the same time. Whenever Mr. Hall and his workman made an ascent, one of them had thus to stride over to the opposite ladder—a sight which caused all to shudder who beheld it. To disengage their hands, they had each a leathern belt round their waists, to which was affixed a spring hook of sufficient dimensions to grasp a stave of the ladder. It was found that the iron rod supporting the weather-cock had broken about six feet down, and the work of taking down the masonry, and replacing it, around a new one, occupied several weeks, but was accomplished without any misadventure.

August 3.—Festival at Bunny Park, in honour of the Right Hon. Lord Ranelagh. The company, chiefly from Nottingham, entered at the great park gates, over which a triumphal arch of evergreens and flowers had been erected, and on each side purple and orange flags flaunted in the breeze. The drive across the spacious park then conducted the company to another pair of gates leading to the grand entrance to the Hall, and here stood a second triumphal arch, with purple and yellow banners. Passing in front of the grand entrance, which was decorated with several large flags, another triumphal arch surmounted the gateway to the lawn; and then the chief attractions of the festive scene burst upon the sight. A large pavilion and numerous marquees were so arranged with the fancy wall of the Italian garden as to form a large square. The marquees, &c., were tastefully decorated, and on the top of each and along the wall were flags and evergreens in profusion. The pavilion itself was 175 feet long and 35 wide.

At two o'clock dinner was served in the pavilion. Addresses were subsequently given by Mr. T. Wakefield, the noble Lord, the proprietor of the estate, Mr. Larpent, M.P., and others. Tea was provided at six.

Up to five o'clock the day had been as joyous as could have

been desired; the sun had shone brilliantly, and everything was quite promising. But the evening set in thoroughly wet, and the rain continued to descend very heavily till morning. There was no possibility of returning home except in covered conveyances; and the few flies that kept traversing the night through, the seven weary miles to Nottingham, could scarcely accommodate one in twenty of those who were anxious to leave by them. Most of the company, however, made the best of their position. The large pavilion was occupied with country dances, and one of the marquees with quadrilles. In the large kitchen and other parts of the Hall, various games whiled away the time, and by about ten in the morning the whole company had departed.

August 26, 27, & 28.—Grand cricket match, on the Trent-bridge ground, between the elevens of the counties of Kent and Nottingham. The latter side included the Rev. W. Musters, Parr, Clark, Garratt, Guy, Barker, Good, Jarvis, Butler, Need, and Nixon. The Kentish men went in first, and scored 130 and 79, to their opponents 124 and 63; thus beating by 22 runs.

September 20.—Re-election for South Nottinghamshire of the Earl of Lincoln, who had accepted the office of Chief Commissioner of Woods and Forests, under the Government of Sir R. Peel.

September 26.—The Queen Dowager again passed through Nottingham, on her way from Belvoir Castle to Sudbury Hall. Her Majesty was met on the London-road by a detachment of the 3rd Dragoons. The Royal *cortège* consisted of seven carriages, in which were seated her Majesty Queen Adelaide, her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester, Prince Ernest of Hesse-Philippsthal, Earl Howe, the Earl of Denbigh, Lord Burghersh, Lady Georgiana Bathurst, Lady Georgiana Curzon, and various attendants. The carriages proceeded up Hollow-stone, along Stoney-street, to the George IV. Inn, where there was a change of horses. The *cortège* then passed down Pelham-street, and along the Market-place to the Derby-road. The number of spectators in the streets was very great. As the cavalcade moved along every mark of respect was shown by the assembled inhabitants, to whom the Queen bowed very repeatedly. The military escort continued their attendance as far as Wollaton Hall, the seat of Lord Middleton, upon whom her Majesty made a passing call: the Queen and her suite walked for some time in the beautiful grounds of that fine old baronial residence, which elicited her Majesty's warm admiration.

September 29.—First stone of St. Barnabas Church, Derby road, laid.

October 12.—Presentation of plate, at the Exchange Hall, to Messrs. Walter and Charlton, for their services in the Conservative cause. At one o'clock, between two and three hundred ladies and gentlemen sat down to a *déjeuner à la fourchette*. At the close of the repast, F. Hardwick, Esq., presented Mr. Walter with a silver candelabrum, and Mr. Charlton with a silver salver.

1841

October 13.—Opening and consecration of Trinity Church, a handsome Gothic edifice with a beautiful spire 177 feet high. The church has seats for 1200 people, of which seats 300 are free. The living is a vicarage valued at £400 per annum.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. *St. Ann's Ward*, Samuel Bean and George Galloway; *Byron*, William Aulton and Henry Frearson; *Castle*, Thomas Wakefield and Richard Biddle; *Exchange*, Job Bradshaw and John Hadden; *St. Mary's*, Richard Morley and Robert Knight; *Park*, John M. B. Pigott, M.D., and Charles Sneath; *Sherwood*, William Taylor and John Minnitt.

November 9.—Richard Morley, Esq., appointed Mayor; Mr. Thomas Gilbert Carver, Sheriff.

November 30.—A public meeting was held at the Exchange, the Mayor in the chair, for the purpose of promoting a subscription in aid of the distressed poor. The Ven. Archdeacon Wilkins, Dr. Davidson, Dr. J. C. Williams, the Rev. B. Carpenter, I. C. Wright, Esq., H. Smith, Esq., F. Wright, Esq., and Mr. T. Wakefield, moved and seconded resolutions accordingly. The subscription thus set afloat amounted to about £2,000, and was expended chiefly in providing soup and bread for several thousand persons in destitute circumstances.

December.—The Lord Chancellor inserted the following names in the commission of the peace for this borough:—Messrs. Francis Hardwick, John Hadden, William Hannay, John Mills, Francis Braithwaite, Francis Welford, and John Horsfall.

The population returns of the census this year, exhibited the subjoined results:—*St. Mary's*, houses, 9,034; males, 19,181; females, 21,954: total, 41,135. *St. Nicholas's*, houses, 1,202; males, 2,384; females, 3,040: total, 5,424. *St. Peter's*, houses, 1,259; males, 2,527; females, 3,078: total, 5,605. *Standard Hill and Limits of the Castle*, houses, 117; males, 445; females, 482: total, 927. Grand total—houses, 11,612; males, 24,537; females, 28,554: total, 53,091.

1842.

1842

January 1.—Mr. C. Swann, Coroner, opened an inquiry at Mansfield, into the circumstances attending the death of Mary Hallam, the result of which was the committal of a young man to gaol, on a charge of wilful murder.

The particulars of the case were briefly these. The deceased was a young woman of considerable personal attractions, and lived with her parents. She went out on the evening of the 30th December, and not having returned at nine o'clock, her father proceeded to make inquiries after her in various directions, but did not succeed in finding her. Remembering that she was intimate

with a young man named Jones, who had formerly lodged with them, but who now resided a few doors off, he climbed by means of a table and chair to the window of the room where Jones usually worked as a shoemaker, and there saw his daughter on the floor, waltering in her blood. As soon as he recovered from the shock, Hallam gave information to a constable named Mettham, who accompanied him in search for Jones. It was now a quarter-past twelve, and they found him in bed. Mettham told him he was wanted on a charge of murdering William Hallam's daughter. He put on his clothes, and went with them, and on the way to the lock-up, he said he was the murderer, and had intended to destroy himself. He also told Mettham where he might find the key of the room. On entering the apartment subsequently, the constable found the body of the victim lying in a pool of blood, which had issued from an extensive wound in the throat. A common shoemaker's knife, with which the wound had been inflicted, lay on the floor.

The murderer was arraigned at the County Hall, before the Right Hon. Lord Abinger, on the 12th of March, and found guilty. He received his sentence with firm composure.

John Jones *alias* Moore was executed on Wednesday, the 23rd of March. He made a full confession of his guilt. On the way from his cell to the Grand Jury Room, where the process of pinning was performed, he requested to see his grave, which he was allowed to do.

May 4. The startling announcement was made public that a compromise had been effected between the opposing parties at the election of June 1841, by which Sir George Harpente would retire, and Mr. Walter be allowed to walk over for the vacant seat. This announcement caused much confusion amongst all parties; and several other compromises having been made in various parts of the country, on Thursday the 5th of May, Mr. Roebuck gave notice in the House that he would put a question to Captain Plumridge, and, *mutatis mutandis*, to Sir John Cam Hobhouse and others, whether any of them was cognizant of or party to any arrangement of the kind above alluded to. This had the effect of postponing the writ, which, though moved for, was refused. The replies to the inquiry not being satisfactory, Mr. Roebuck moved for a committee of investigation, and being supported by Sir R. Peel, the motion was carried without opposition. This committee met for some days, and examined Sir G. Harpente, Mr. Hamlyn, Mr. B. Wakefield, and other gentlemen from Nottingham. Their report was not presented until the 13th of July, when it stated, amongst other things, that

After the appointment of a Committee to try the case of the Nottingham election, but before the trial thereof, a compromise was entered into between the agents of Sir John Cam Hobhouse and Sir George Harpente on the one part, and

several other gentlemen on the other part, by which it was agreed that Sir John Cam Hobhouse should not be allowed to stand for the vacant seat.

1842 an agent, who signed as agent of the petitioners against the return, and of Mr. Walter, the defeated candidate, on the other.

The terms of this arrangement are set forth in a written agreement, as follows:—

“Memorandum.—London, May 4, 1842.

“NOTTINGHAM ELECTION PETITIONS.

“It is expedient to settle the petitions now pending, and it is agreed that—

“1. All the petitions shall be abandoned.

“2. That within four days from this day, one seat shall be vacated.

“3. The sum of £1,000 to be paid to Messrs. Clarke, Fynmore, and Fladgate, within seven days from this date, in consideration of the expenses incurred in the petition.

“4. It is understood that Mr. Walter is to be returned at the election resulting from the above-mentioned vacancy; for the security whereof, it is agreed that Lord Rancliffe, Mr. Wakefield, Mr. John Heard, Mr. Enfield, Mr. Biddle, Mr. Hurst, Mr. Birkin, Mr. Wells, Mr. Hart, Mr. Alfred Fellows, Mr. Henry Leaver, Mr. Bean, Mr. Jonathan Burton, Mr. George Bacon, and Mr. Aulton shall not directly or indirectly oppose Mr. Walter at such election, and that, in addition, Mr. Wakefield shall discourage all opposition on the part of the persons named in the list copied on the other side of this paper.

“5. That a promissory note for £4,000, signed by Sir John Cam Hobhouse or Sir George G. de H. Larpent, at one month from this date, shall be this day deposited with Messrs. Cocks, Biddulph, & Co., bankers, London; and that James Bacon, Esq., and Sutton Sharpe, Esq., shall decide whether the above conditions have been honourably fulfilled; and if such referees (or, in case of their disagreement, an umpire appointment by them) shall decide that such conditions have not been honourably fulfilled, then the promissory note in question shall be handed to Mr. Walter, or be returned to Sir John Cam Hobhouse or Sir George G. de H. Larpent if such conditions have been honourably fulfilled.

“DYSON, HALL, & PARKES,
Agents to Sir John Cam Hobhouse and
Sir George G. de H. Larpent, Barts.

“W. M. FLADGATE,
For the Petitioners and Mr. Walter.”

(On the other side of the paper.)

“Mr. Carver.	Mr. George Gill.
Mr. John Rogers.	Mr. Roberts, sen.
Dr. Pigott.	Mr. Roberts, jun.
Mr. Oldknow.	Mr. Robert Sands.
Mr. Cartwright.	Mr. Henry Frearson.

“DYSON, HALL, & PARKES.
“W. M. FLADGATE.”

The circumstances which induced the agents of the sitting members to enter into this agreement are stated to have been,—

1. The fear that both the sitting members would have been unseated for bribery and treating committed by their agents.

2. And also the dread of the enormous expense that must necessarily have been incurred, with small hopes of success.

That the number of electors as about 5,400.

That the sum expended in the election on the part of Sir John Cam Hobhouse and Sir George Larpent was £12,000.

Of this sum a very large part was expended in an illegal manner; some in direct bribery, some in treating, and other unlawful proceedings; without the personal cognizance of the candidates.

The expenditure on the part of the opposing candidates appears to have been about £4,000 or £5,000.

Upon this document being made public, Lord Rancliffe and several of the gentlemen named in it, indignantly repudiated any connection whatever with the agreement.

When the news of the compromise reached Nottingham, nearly the whole of the Liberal party protested loudly against it, and refusing to be bound down hand and foot to their opponents, or,

as they termed it, "to be made the subject of bargain and sale," 1842 determined that Mr. Walter should not be permitted to walk over the course. Accordingly, Messrs. G. Gill, S. Fox, S. Bean, T. Beggs, and other gentlemen, issued spirited addresses, and convened a public meeting, the result of which was, that Mr. Joseph Sturge, of Birmingham was requested to suffer himself to be placed in nomination. Mr. Sturge complied, and made a public entry into the town on the 18th of May. There were no flags, nor colours, nor bands of music, but an immense number of working men, "the people's candidate," as Mr. Sturge emphatically was, walking with them on foot. During the next few days Mr. Sturge attended several enthusiastic meetings.

The Conservative party gave no sign of action until the 24th, when Mr. Walter issued an address, and on the 25th addressed a public meeting at the Assembly Rooms. At the same time, Mr. F. O'Connor was holding forth in favour of Mr. Sturge, to a large gathering in the Market-place.

The numerous addresses sent from the Radicals in various parts of the country, showed the general interest excited in the struggle. The work of agitation went briskly on in the town. The wards were divided into districts, under the superintendence of Mr. Boothby, barrister, and Mr. M. Browne, solicitor, and Ward meetings, at which Mr. Sturge attended, were very frequent. A temporary platform was erected at the committee-room window, on Bunkers-hill, from which Mr. O'Connor, Mr. H. Vincent, and others every night addressed large assemblages. But the opposition of Sir R. Peel to the issuing of the writ until Mr. Roebuck's inquiry had terminated, stopped the proceedings of both parties.

On the 30th of July, news arrived of the issuing of the writ. Mr. Walter came again from London in the afternoon of that day, and delivered a speech to a numerous body of his supporters, at the Assembly Rooms. The Sheriff proclaimed the writ on Sunday morning. On Monday, an immense meeting was held in the Market-place, at which Mr. Sturge, Mr. O'Connor, and Dr. M'Douall delivered addresses. At a similar gathering, the next evening, a collision took place. It had been announced that Mr. O'Connor and others would deliver addresses in the Market-place. Some astonishment was excited by the appearance of a bill stating that the Rev. J. R. Stephens, an expelled Wesleyan minister, would deliver an address on behalf of Mr. Walter, and appointing the same place and time. About seven o'clock, there could not have been less than 16,000 or 18,000 people. In the middle was placed the waggon for O'Connor and the Liberals; and at the upper end, the one intended for Stephens and the Conservatives. Contrary to the advice of Mr. Sturge, who beheld the proceeding from a window of Bromley House, and protested unavailingly against it, the waggon placed for that gentleman's friends was seized by the surrounding people, and wheeled up to within fifteen yards of the other. O'Connor, M'Douall, and several leading

1842 Chartists were inside the vehicle at the time, and expressed a wish for it to be taken back, but that was found impossible, as the waggon was crammed full in every part, and wedged round by a mass of human beings, loudly cheering O'Connor and his friends. In a few minutes, Stephens made his appearance on the opposite waggon, with Mr. G. Whitehead, Mr. E. P. Cox, and others. An indescribable scene of confusion followed. Stephens, who stood erect, with his arms folded in an attitude of calm defiance, was the object for some minutes of the loudest execrations and the fiercest epithets. His waggon was surrounded by a number of Blues, who repaid the hisses and hootings which assailed Stephens; but they were overpowered by numbers. From words they came to blows; O'Connor jumped from the waggon, and headed a charge that drove everything before it. The orator Stephens and his associates took refuge in the Bell inn, while the leaders of the victorious party took possession of the vehicle from which they had driven them. O'Connor was of the first who mounted, and was received with three deafening cheers. The usual amount of speechifying was then indulged in.

The nomination day was Thursday, the 4th of August. Mr. J. Walter, senr., was nominated by Mr. F. Hardwick, and Mr. T. B. Charlton; and Mr. J. Sturge, by Mr. S. Bean and Mr. W. Cripps. Mr. F. O'Connor and Mr. H. Vincent were also proposed, but simply for the purpose of enabling them to address the electors, and when they had done so, they withdrew. The show of hands was nearly unanimous in favour of the Liberal candidate.

The result of the polling, next day, was as follows:—Walter, 1885; Sturge, 1801: majority for Mr. Walter, 84.

August 2 & 3.—Cricket match at Sheffield, between eleven of Nottingham and eleven of Sheffield. The Nottingham players were Mr. Noyes, Mr. Creswell, Clark, J. Brown, Oscroft, C. Brown, Gibson, Nixon, Johnson, Need, and Jackson. Our team won by 91 runs.

August 8 & 9.—Return cricket match at the Trent-bridge ground, between the players of Nottingham and Sheffield. Nottingham was represented by Mr. Patchitt, Mr. Creswell, Mr. Maltby, Mr. N. Hurst, Mr. F. Noyes, and Chapman, Brown, Johnson, Clark, Jackson, and Oscroft. Score: Sheffield, 123 and 37; Nottingham, 132 and 29; our townsmen winning with nine wickets to go down.

August 22, 23, & 24.—Grand cricket match at the Trent-bridge ground, between Nottingham and All England, for £100 a side. The All England eleven was probably the most formidable that our players have ever contended with; it included the following names:—Box, Lillywhite, Hillyer, Pilch, A. Mynn, Wenman, Sewell, Dorrington, Hawkins, Dean, and the Hon. F. Ponsonby. Their opponents were Clark, B. Parr, S. Parr, Barker, Guy, Noyes, Butler, Good, Oscroft, Redgate, and Chapman. Nottingham scored 122 and 110; All England, 228 and 5, with ten wickets to fall.

August.—The latter part of this month was distinguished by an attempt of several hundreds of the working classes, in common with associates in other districts of the country, “to promote a general strike, or cessation from labour, until the document known as the People’s Charter became the law of the land.” The movement commenced on the 18th, when a resolution to cease work until the above object was realized was adopted in the public Market-place by a meeting of above 2,000 persons, after addresses by Messrs. Jonathan Barber, Henry Dorman, and others. The meeting was then adjourned to five o’clock the next morning.

The Town Magistrates regarding the movement as dangerous, resolved that no reassemblage of the like character should be permitted. When, therefore, the Chartists sallied forth in the morning, they were visited by Dr. Williams, Mr. Heard, Mr. Vickers, Mr. Horsfall, and Mr. Nunn, and were told that they must at once disperse, or prepare for the consequences. The notification was received with groans, and a postponement to the hour of ten was agreed upon.

When ten arrived, some six or seven hundred again congregated in the Market-place. Their leader, a paid lecturer from Stockport, named Clarke, was hoisted upon the shoulders of some of his friends, and began to speak; but turning towards the Police Office, he beheld a body of police, with several magistrates at their head, approaching him, whereupon the orator descended from his elevation with great celerity, and marched off with the mob to several factories, many of the men employed at which, obeying their summons, came out and swelled their numbers.

About one o’clock, the police again fell in with the disturbers in Hockley; and symptoms of violence becoming manifest, the Riot Act was read by Mr. Close, and the people were told to disperse. The mob went away *en masse* to other factories, and at several of them succeeded in stopping the works; but the police apprehending several of the ringleaders, so discouraged the rest that nothing further was then attempted.

The turnouts reassembled in the after part of the day at Carrington. Here they made a strenuous attempt to oust the workmen from Messrs. Biddle & Birkin’s factory, but Mr. Sherwin, one of the county magistrates, took steps to prevent it. While reading the Riot Act, one daring fellow tore it from his hand. A detachment of military then suppressed the tumult.

On Saturday, the 20th, the malcontents gathered on Burton Leys, whence they proceeded to several factories at New Radford, but were unsuccessful. Thence they passed through Blooms Grove to Radford, with the intention of compelling the colliers to join them. They were intercepted, however, by two troops of the Queen’s Bays. The mob, about 500 strong, no sooner got a glimpse of the glittering helmets of the cavalry, than they attempted to escape across the fields in the wildest confusion; but by a dexterous movement, 140 of them were inclosed between the

1842 ranks of the soldiers, and marched off as prisoners to the Barracks. Thirty-nine of these were committed by the magistrates to the County Gaol: the others were liberated.

In the forenoon of Monday, several hundreds again assembled on Burton Leys, and about twelve o'clock proceeded on the Arnold road, to meet a large force in that direction; and at Sherwood were joined by upwards of 2,000 confederates, consisting in a great measure of framework knitters from the villages. But no sooner had they met, than up came the magistrates and military, and there was a general flight over hedge and ditch. Two only were captured.

On Tuesday, till three o'clock, the town was perfectly tranquil, but at that hour news arrived of a very large capture of the disturbers, on Mapperley Hills. Early in the morning, information had been conveyed to the magistrates, of great numbers having congregated at Hucknall, Bulwell, Arnold, Basford, and other places. On the receipt of information, the 2nd Dragoon Guards were called out, and, accompanied by the police, found several thousands on the Mapperley Hills. They were ordered to disperse, but the mandate not being complied with, Col. Rolleston directed that a number of them should be taken prisoners, and a body of not less than 400 were captured. The whole were arranged four a-breast, and marched off to the House of Correction. The procession was followed by those who had escaped apprehension, who ventured, just at the junction of Red-lane with the Mansfield-road, to assail the police and soldiery with a volley of stones. On arriving at the top of York-street, there was a second volley, accompanied by horrible groans and yells. The nearer the procession approached the House of Correction, the greater became the confusion and the fiercer the spirit of the mob. Orders were given to his troops by the officer in command, to prepare for firing, and every other Dragoon slung his carbine, but happily there was no necessity for bloodshed. The military succeeded in clearing the streets by galloping about and brandishing their swords. By four o'clock, all the prisoners were safe within the walls of the gaol.

The magistrates commenced an immediate examination of the miscellaneous capture. In the course of a couple of hours, 250 of those supposed to be least concerned in the disturbances were liberated; and on the following day, upwards of fifty more were released, on entering into their own recognizances, £5 each, to keep the peace for twelve months.

A further selection was subsequently made, and about fifty of the men committed for trial. They were arraigned before Col. Rolleston, at the Michaelmas Quarterly Sessions, and found guilty of unlawfully and riotously assembling together and breaking the peace. Some were sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour for six, four, or two months, and the rest were discharged upon entering into recognizances to keep the peace.

August 10.—Mr. Cobden presented a petition to the House of Commons, from Mr. G. Gill and Mr. S. Bean, complaining of bribery, intimidation, and other illegal practices at the late election, and praying in the usual form that the House would declare the election null and void. 1842

August 20.—Conservative festival in the Castle-yard, in celebration of the return of Mr. Walter. There were nine spacious and elegant pavilions, with architectural adornments, constructed of wood, and painted in front in imitation of stone, besides several marquees. Mr. Walter honoured the festivity with his presence.

October 28.—The Rev. R. W. Wilson, priest of the Roman Catholic congregation in this town, appointed Bishop of Hobart Town, Australia.

October.—Formation of the Nottingham Government School of Design.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. For *St. Ann's Ward*, W. Sylvester and J. Butler; *Byron*, J. G. Beckett and W. Page; *Castle*, L. Hardy and J. Hall; *Exchange*, F. E. Shipley and F. Noyes; *St. Mary's*, T. Adams and W. Elliott; *Park*, W. Parsons and W. Cripps; *Sherwood*, W. Surplice and G. Rawson.

November 9.—Mr. Thomas Wakefield appointed Mayor; Mr. Jonathan Reckless, Sheriff.

December 13.—Great free trade demonstration in Nottingham. The merchants and manufacturers of the counties of Nottingham, Leicester, and Derby, conferred with a deputation of the Anti-Corn Law League, at the Independent Chapel, Friar-lane, in the morning, and in the evening, at the Exchange Hall. The chief speakers were Mr. R. Cobden, Mr. J. Bright, and Mr. R. Moore (the deputation), and Mr. J. Biggs, Mr. J. Heard, Mr. T. Wakefield, Colonel P. Thompson, Mr. C. Paget, and Mr. Johnson. About £1,400 were subscribed to the League fund.

December 18.—Service at St. Mary's church was suspended for some months after this date, in consequence of the insecure condition of the tower.

1843.

January.—The vicar and churchwardens of St. Mary endeavoured to induce the parishioners to grant a rate towards the restoration of the church. It was met at the vestry meeting by the following amendment:—"That this meeting considers all church-rates as iniquitous and unjust, and therefore decide that this question stand adjourned for twelve months." The amendment was adopted, and the polling which succeeded closed as subjoined:— 1843

For an eightpenny rate	...	145
For the adjournment	...	929

1843 *March 23.*—The Committee of the House of Commons, after an enquiry, extending over eight days, into the merits of the petition against Mr. Walter's return, came to the resolution that Mr. Walter was not duly elected, "having, through his agents, been guilty of bribery and treating." This decision took the Conservative party by surprise, more especially as the chairman and three others of the seven members composing the Committee were of their own party. Though twenty-five clear cases of bribery were proved, yet, as there was no evidence to show that such bribery was committed with the knowledge or consent of Mr. Walter, a contrary result had been anticipated. The exultation of the Liberals was unbounded.

April 5.—Nomination of candidates at the Exchange Hall. Thomas Gisborne, Esq. (Radical), was nominated by Lord Ranccliffe and Mr. S. Bean; and John Walter, junr., Esq. (Conservative), by Mr. T. B. Charlton and Mr. John Parker. Mr. F. O'Connor and Mr. Tyas (one of the editors of *The Times*), were also placed in nomination, to admit of them addressing the electors. The show of hands was greatly in favour of Mr. Gisborne.

In the afternoon of the same day, Thomas Duncombe, Esq., M.P., made a public entry into the town, in an open carriage drawn by four horses, and with postilions in purple and orange livery; and in the procession were a great number of flags. The "pet of Finsbury," as Mr. Duncombe was familiarly called, addressed a very large assemblage, in favour of Mr. Gisborne, from the balcony of Mr. Dunn's window, on the South-parade.

The result of the poll, the next day, was as follows:—Gisborne, 1839; Walter, 1728: majority for Gisborne, 111.

May 22, 23, & 24.—Cricket match at the Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Nottingham and eleven of Sheffield. Our team comprised Mr. Noyes, Mr. Creswell, Mr. Patchitt, Mr. Galloway, Mr. Billyeald, J. Johnson, J. Chapman, Clark, S. Bagguley, Jackson, and Grundy. Sheffield won by 35 runs.

June 1.—The Committee of the House of Commons on the Nottingham election petition, against the return of Mr. Gisborne, of which Charles Wood, Esq., was chairman, commenced its sittings, and continued them till the 5th, when Messrs. Cockburn and Hildyard, the petitioners' counsel, abandoned the inquiry, and the Committee declared Mr. Gisborne duly elected.

June 13.—Death of J. Mitchell Davidson, M.D., physician to the Lunatic Asylum and to the General Hospital. He had also an extensive private practice, and few men were more universally esteemed.

June 14.—Public dinner at the Exchange Hall, to Mr. Gisborne, M.P. Mr. T. Wakefield presided, and amongst the speakers were Mr. Gisborne, Mr. W. Cripps, Mr. S. Bean, Dr. Pigott, and Mr. C. Paget.

June 29 & 30.—Cricket match at the Trent-bridge ground, between Hampshire with four players of England, and the county

of Nottingham. The latter was represented on this occasion by Mr. W. Musters, Mr. Warwick, Mr. E. Patchitt, Mr. H. Maltby, Mr. Creswell, Mr. G. Kettle, Mr. Noyes, Clark, Barker, Guy, and Redgate. Only innings of Nottingham, 152; Hampshire, 76 and 57.

July 7.—Mr. George Parkin elected a member of the Town Council, for Byron Ward, in the place of Mr. W. Aulton, deceased.

July 10 & 11.—Return cricket match at Sheffield, between eleven of Nottingham and eleven of Sheffield. Mr. Patchitt, Mr. Creswell, Mr. Billycald, Johnson, Butler, C. Brown, J. Brown, Jackson, Bickley, Bagguley, and Clark played on behalf of Nottingham, who won in one innings and 87 runs to spare.

August 9.—Laying the corner stone of the church of St. John the Baptist, Leen-side. The stone was laid by Earl Manvers, and an address was delivered to the spectators by Archdeacon Wilkins.

August 24 & 25.—Contest at the Trent-bridge ground, between the cricketers of Nottingham and those of the Marylebone Club. The local players were Mr. J. B. Warwick, Mr. H. Maltby, Buttery, Butler, Noyes, Guy, Clark, Brown, Chapman, Redgate, and Good. Score: Nottingham, 90 and 76; Marylebone, 73 and 68.

September 18, 19, & 20.—Remarkable contest on the same ground, between the players of Sussex and Nottingham. Our townsmen went in first, and scored as follows:—Mr. Noyes 47, Buttery 36, C. Brown 28, Guy 11, Clark 14, Butler 12, Gilbert 91, Chapman 41, Mr. C. Creswell 5, Redgate 11, and Flear 9, making, with byes, &c., the formidable total of 326. The Sussex eleven then went in, but were all out in an hour and three-quarters, with only 33 runs; in their second innings they scored 262, Nottingham thus triumphed with an innings and 31 runs to spare.

September 30.—Mr. Benjamin Goodhead elected a Councillor for Sherwood Ward, in the place of Mr. George Rawson, who had resigned, in consequence of being appointed magistrates' clerk.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. *St. Ann's Ward*, Edmund Percy and T. H. Smith; *Byron*, John Bradley and Arthur Wells; *Castle*, J. Tomlinson, senr., and C. Thornton, senr.; *Exchange*, Thomas North and Kirke Swann; *St. Mary's*, George Eddowes and John Mills; *Park*, T. F. Gimson and Edwd. Munk; *Sherwood*, John Fox and John Swann.

November 8.—Death of Mr. John Attenburrow, surgeon, aged 87 years. He was senior surgeon to the General Hospital for sixty-one years.

November 9.—Mr. William Vickers appointed Mayor; Mr. William Galloway, Sheriff.

November 14.—Presentation of a testimonial to Archdeacon Wilkins, on his resigning the vicarage of St. Mary's. The testimonial was the gift of members of his congregation, and consisted of an extremely elegant silver teacup, 115oz. weight, bearing the

- 1843 Rev. Doctor's coat of arms and an appropriate inscription. Dr. Wilkins was succeeded by the Rev. J. W. Brooks.

December 4.—Her Majesty Queen Victoria, accompanied by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, and their State attendants, passed through Nottingham, on their way from Chatsworth to Belvoir Castle.

The preparations for the reception of the illustrious pair were on an extensive scale. The Meadows, the Station-yard, the Flood-road, and every spot from which a glimpse of the Royal *cortège* could be gained, was occupied by an eager and enthusiastic multitude. The morning was brilliant. By ten o'clock, the roads converging to the old Station were densely thronged, and numerous stages or raised platforms, for the occupancy of which from one shilling to half-a-crown was paid by each person, were covered with gaily dressed people. In the Station yard (now the Midland Goods Station), an immense platform, in the form of an inclined plane, ranged close up to the arrival line, afforded accommodation for a great number of persons. Another platform, in the best position for observation, was used by the Lord-Lieutenant of the county, the Mayor and Magistrates, the directors of the Railway Company, and others. And everywhere, both in and out of the Station, flags, evergreens, and costly decorations were numerous and varied.

At twenty minutes past eleven o'clock, a Royal salute from guns planted on the Castle rock, announced that the train was in sight; and as the band of the Inniskillen Dragoons struck up the National Anthem, and a detachment of the 64th Foot presented arms, the Royal carriage entered the station, and the illustrious occupants, as they walked along the platform covered with crimson cloth, were hailed with enthusiastic cheers. Her Majesty and the Prince were formally received by the Earl of Scarbrough Lord-Lieutenant, W. Vickers, Esq., Mayor, and Gen. Arbuthnot, Commander of the Northern District. Her Majesty was conducted to a room fitted up for the occasion, and in about ten minutes left the Station in a carriage, for Belvoir. The Inniskillen Dragoons, the South Nottinghamshire Yeomanry Cavalry, and the Sherwood Rangers lined the road for some distance. The new road across the West-croft inclosure had been completed specially for the day, and from the circumstance of her Majesty passing along it, received the appellation, Queen's-road. The Royal *cortège* passed under nine triumphal arches, viz., three on the new road, three at its junction with the Flood-road, and three between there and the extremity of the Trent-bridge. Over the road near the Town Arms was suspended the *Nautilus* wherry, with the gallant crew in naval costume; and as the Queen passed slowly along, these and numberless other marks of loyalty received her repeated and gracious acknowledgments.

In the evening 220 gentlemen sat down to a public dinner at the Exchange Hall, in celebration of the event. The speakers

were the Mayor (who presided), Colonel Moore, Captain Charlton, J. Mills, Esq., G. Bacon, Esq., F. Braithwaite, Esq., Mr. J. Swann, Mr. T. Wakefield, and the Sheriff. 1843

December 6.—Mr. Thomas Cullen, lace-manufacturer, elected an Alderman, in the place of Mr. Joseph Frearson, deceased.

December 26.—The Free Traders of the neighbourhood held a tea meeting at the Exchange Rooms, in furtherance of the second "Great League Fund." C. Paget, Esq., of Ruddington, presided, and speeches were made by Colonel T. P. Thompson, Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., Mr. R. Moore, Mr. J. Heard, Mr. W. Cripps, and Mr. J. Bradley. About £600 were subscribed.

December 31.—Six convicts effected an escape from the County Gaol. Between four and five in the afternoon (Sunday), the under turnkey, in the discharge of his duty, visited the felons' yards, with the milk allowed for supper. In one of the yards were seven men under sentence of transportation, having been returned guilty, at a special assize, a few days previously, of committing daring burglaries at Sutton Bonnington and Fiskerton. Whilst giving them their portions, the turnkey's throat was suddenly grasped by Joseph Smith, one of the convicts, and the others assailing him also, he was at once overpowered and gagged, and the key of the door wrenched from him. They unlocked the yard door and rushed out, leaving the turnkey on the ground, and locking him in. They then ran upstairs, each carrying a handkerchief or stocking in which was tied a lump of coal. Flourishing these in the air, they next encountered an assistant turnkey, whom they unceremoniously thrust into the coal-yard, and pushed the door to. In the person of the head turnkey they found a sturdier obstacle, but he was soon disabled and forced to give up the key of the outer door. The assistant, however, had recovered his freedom, and by his exertion, and the renewed energy of the head turnkey, before the whole could get on to the Pavement, one of them, named Vickers, was recaptured. The other six escaped. In a few minutes, twenty-two policemen were despatched in various directions. These officers scoured the roads, fields, and lanes for miles round, but to no effect. All that could be learnt was, that the convicts went in a body as far as Sneinton, and then dispersed, no two of them going in the same direction.

The first who was taken was named Burton. He was found at Colwick, by a constable there named Freeman, who took him into custody as a supposed poacher. Within two hours of his escape, he was again safely lodged in his old quarters.

Another, named John Binns *alias* Weightman, was apprehended the following week, at the house of a relative, in Leeds, by Inspector Raynor and others. He was heavily ironed, and brought back to Nottingham. This daring convict, who was a native of Heanor, in June, 1851, again succeeded in escaping, from one of the Australian penal settlements.

Thompson, a third, was discovered a few days afterwards,

1843 secreted in the house of a labourer, in John-street, Sneinton. He was secured before resistance was possible. A brace of pistols, loaded with bullets, twenty-two bullets recently cast, a quantity of powder, and a variety of skeleton keys were found upon him.

A fourth, named Bowers, contrived to hide himself in London, where he remained undiscovered for about six years, and was then betrayed by a female associate, whom he had ill-used and offended. The other two were not recaptured.

Considering that the men, when they escaped, were dressed in prison garments, and were without money, that a reward of £50 was offered for the recapture of each, and the utmost exertion was put forth by the authorities, it is surprising that any of them should have eluded observation.

1844.

1844 *March 22.*—In digging foundations on Beastmarket hill several skeletons were exhumed.

April 18.—Consecration of Hyson Green church. The building cost £1,911.

May 20.—A public meeting was held at the Exchange, to adopt measures for the restoration of St. Mary's church. The Mayor presided. It was stated that, owing to the faulty construction of the piers and pillars supporting the tower, they began in December, 1842, to yield under the immense pressure, and the fall of the tower was only prevented by props and framework, whereby it was temporarily shored up. A public subscription was resolved upon, and in the course of a few months a sufficient sum was obtained to enable the committee to effect a general restoration of the entire structure, including the removal of the incongruous Doric western end and Grecian urn that had been suffered to disfigure it since 1726.

July 27.—William Saville, aged 29 years, was arraigned at the County Hall, before Lord Chief Justice Denman, charged in four separate counts with the wilful murder of Ann Saville, his wife, and of Harriet, Mary, and Thomas Saville, his children.

Saville was a native of Arnold, and was brought up at Blidworth and Bestwood, as a farm labourer. Subsequently, his father taught him to work in the stocking-frame, and it was while working in such capacity that he formed the acquaintance of Ann Ward. This young woman had had an illegitimate child before Saville knew her, and she was soon again pregnant by him. Seeing her position, a sister of hers induced Saville to agree to a marriage by giving him a sum of money and engaging to provide for the child already born. The ceremony was performed at Sneinton church, in November, 1835, and Saville came with his wife to reside in Nottingham. They moved in a while to Radford,

and then seriously disagreeing, resolved to separate. After a time, they again lived together at Carrington, Sneinton, Southwell, and Derby, never stopping long in the same house. In January, 1844, he deserted his family, and suffered them to enter the poorhouse. Passing himself off as a single man, he went into lodgings at New Radford, and contracted an acquaintance with a virtuous young woman, to whom he made an offer of his hand. To any inquiry respecting his wife, his reply was that she had gone into Lincolnshire, to keep her brother's house. But his deceit was exposed. His wife had discovered his retreat, and by calling at his lodgings and making herself known, blighted the scheme he had formed of marrying the young woman, and persuading her to accompany him to America.

On the 21st of May, Saville met his wife at the house of a Mrs. Wardle, in Wood-street, and proposed taking a walk. She and the children accordingly went with him, down Colwick-lane, and into a plantation at the side of a foot-road leading to Carlton. In this secluded place he cut the throats of his wife and children. The act was performed quickly, for at twenty-five minutes past twelve, Saville and his wife were seen by two persons who were passing, sitting upon a bank, in conversation, and the children running about, gathering flowers; and at half past one he was back again in Wood-street, Nottingham, inquiring very coolly whether his wife, "who had turned nasty, and wouldn't go with him," had returned. He then went to his lodgings at Radford, and ate very heartily of eggs and bacon.

The bodies remained undiscovered two days, and were found by a person named Swinscoe, who was searching amongst the high grass between the trees for rabbit stuff. That of the woman had a razor in its hand, as though she had murdered the children and committed suicide. But other appearances leading to a different impression, Saville was committed for trial. The case against him, however, would scarcely have been strong enough for a conviction, had he not made an admission of guilt to a fellow prisoner, who disclosed his secret.

The jury pronounced him guilty, and the usual sentence of death immediately followed.

The crowd at the execution on Wednesday, August 8th, was immense. Eight was the hour of execution, but every available space was occupied long before it arrived. Occasionally, there came a cry from the surging mass that someone was fainting or being crushed to death, and if the sufferer were fortunate enough not to be entirely bereft of strength, he or she was lifted up, and permitted to walk to the extremity of the crowd on the shoulders of the people. Saville was led forth, and at three minutes past eight, the drop descended. Almost immediately after the mighty crowd broke, as it were, in the middle. The anxiety, deep and general, to witness the spectacle, was succeeded by an equally general and still deeper desire to get away from the overpowering

1844 and suffocating pressure. The result was positively awful. The greater portion of the house-doors along the Pavement were closed, and those who were crushed against the walls by the terrific and resistless tide, had no means of escape. Twelve persons were killed, and more than a hundred received serious injuries; and of the latter, the deaths of five, after lingering illnesses, were clearly traceable to the same catastrophe.

The inhabitants at the windows on each side the street observed the overwhelming rush, and foreseeing the consequence, screamed out to those in the rear to stay their progress. The Mayor was especially active, and though he almost threw himself out of his window for the purpose of staying the fatal advance, all was in vain: to halt, was to be overborne and destroyed. The width of the street, from the bottom of the County Hall steps to the houses on the opposite side, is 35 feet 8 inches; and about three yards of this was occupied by the scaffold. The width at the top of Garner's-hill is 29 feet 8 inches. There are no outlets between St. Mary's-gate and Garner's-hill. Heaps of victims were thrown down and trampled upon on the Pavement, and then the pent up tide found an outlet at Garner's-hill, down which it rolled with destructive velocity. Some fell in their involuntary descent of the steps, others became entangled with them and overthrown, and in a few seconds the steep and narrow thoroughfare was choked up. There the struggling mass lay, men, women, and children, promiscuously heaped together, and each moment receiving additions to its number. The shrieks of the female sufferers were fearful, though not protracted, for a very brief interval brought on either insensibility or the silence of death. Many had dislocated or broken limbs; females could be seen struggling for life, divested almost totally of their exterior garments; and groans, mingled with hurried prayers and curses, resounded on every side.

When, by the exertions of the Mayor and other gentlemen, something like order had been restored, numbers went limping away to their homes, without shoes, or hats, or bonnets. Scores bewailed their inability to find a child, a wife, a husband, or a sister. Mr. Higginbottom, surgeon, whose house-door, like others, had been burst open by the pressure, attended to a number of the sufferers on his own premises. Mr. R. Davison and Mr. Stanger attended upon others who had been carried into the Mayor's warehouse; twenty-three of the most severely injured were at once removed to the General Hospital; about an equal number received treatment at the Dispensary; and many others had medical assistance at their own homes.

The names of those who died on the spot, or in a short time, were as follows:—Eliza Smithurst, aged 19 years, the unmarried daughter of a widow, of Daybrook. John Bednell, aged 14 years, son of a framesmith of that name, of Radford. This youth went to the execution with his mother, but was separated from her in

the crowd. James Fisher, aged 22 years, the son of a publican, 1844 of Bulwell, who fell a sacrifice to his determined exertions to save the lives of others. He had rescued two, and whilst stooping to raise up a third, was himself trodden down and destroyed. Susannah Smedley, aged 14 years, an orphan, of Carlton. Mary Easthope, aged 14 years, and her brother, Thomas Easthope, aged 9 years, the children of a framesmith, of New Lenton. James Marshall, aged 14 years, the son of a blacksmith, of Isabella-street, Nottingham. Eliza Hannah Shuttleworth, aged 12 years, daughter of a boatwright, of Albion-street. Thomas Watson, aged 14 years, the son of a joiner, of Kent-street. Mary Stevenson, aged 23 years, widow, of Daybrook. This woman left two children, and was a sister of Eliza Smithurst, another victim. Eliza Percival, aged 13 years, of Convent-street; and Melicent Shaw, aged 20 years, a fine young woman, daughter of Mr. William Shaw, of Kimberley.

August 26.—Consecration of the Roman Catholic church of St. Barnabas, Derby-road. The ceremony was performed by the Right Rev. Dr. Wiseman, assisted by most of the priests of the midland district.

September 9, 10, & 11.—The only cricket match of interest played at Trent-bridge ground, this year, was between eleven players of Nottingham, and six gentlemen of Nottingham with five players of England. The gentlemen won by 12 runs.

November 1.—The Municipal elections were made memorable by a most determined and exciting struggle for ascendancy, between the Liberal and Conservative parties. For several years the Conservatives had made energetic and not unsuccessful endeavours, and this day was to have witnessed the crowning effort. Purses were made by both parties, amounting to several thousand pounds, and the amount of bribery, intimidation, and treating, had seldom been exceeded, even at a Parliamentary election. In many cases sums varying from £5 to £20 were given for single votes, and lambs were as plentiful as the most pugnaciously disposed could desire. The object contended for was the government of the town; and had the Conservatives gained, as they expected, four wards out of the seven, there would have been a Blue Mayor and a number of Tory Aldermen. As will be seen from the subjoined returns, the result was not as they anticipated:—*St. Ann's Ward*, J. Brown (C) 372, T. Hemsley (C) 372, Galloway, junr., (L) 251, S. Bean (L) 250; *Byron*, J. Hill (L) 353, R. Knight (L) 353, W. Baldock (C) 276, R. James (C) 274; *Castle*, T. Wakefield (L) 315, R. Biddle (L) 313, H. Shipley (C) 222, T. Baines (C) 219; *Exchange*, J. Burton (L) 277, C. Beck (L) 271, J. Hadden (C) 259, J. Bradshaw (C) 252; *St. Mary's*, J. J. Page (C) 338, T. Winter (C) 336, R. Morley (L) 218, G. Bacon (L) 122; *Park*, Hurst (L) 230, W. Taylor (L) 226, W. Gibson (C) 222, A. Lacey (C) 215; *Sherwood*, W. Daft (C) 231, H. Cheetham (C) 229, R. Birkin (L) 215, W. Cheetham (L) 213.

1844

November 9.—Election of Mayor and Aldermen. Mr. J. Swann, seconded by Mr. J. Mills, proposed that Mr. Edmund Percy (Conservative) be elected Mayor; and Messrs. Aldermen Cullen and Judd nominated Mr. Thomas North. On a show of hands, the choice fell upon the latter gentleman. Mr. William Knight and Mr. J. J. Page were proposed for the office of Sheriff, and the former was elected. Then came on an exciting and very close party contest for the appointment of Aldermen. For the Liberal list, consisting of Messrs. Cullen, Wells, Vickers, Bean, Wilson, Carver, and Birkhead, there were twenty-five votes, including the Mayor's; and for the Conservatives, which included Messrs. Hadden, Hannay, Gibson, Bradshaw, Allcock, James, and Williams, M.D., there were twenty-four votes.

November 21.—An accident, involving the loss of three lives, and serious injury to others, occurred on the Nottingham and Derby railway, about three-quarters of a mile from the Beeston station. It appears that a tender had slipped off the rails on the up line, near the Wilford-road crossing; and there not being time to remove it before the next train from Nottingham should start, it was resolved that that train should be sent on the down line, and a messenger was dispatched to prevent any other train leaving Beeston until the up train had passed. Mr. Lightfoot, Station master at Nottingham, followed shortly afterwards. Through some misunderstanding, on the arrival at Beeston of a train from Derby, they came forward to Nottingham with it on the down line. It was proceeding very slowly through a dense fog, when it was met by the train from Nottingham, coming at the rate of about thirty miles an hour.

Immediate attention was paid to the sufferers, the chief of whom were the following:—William Varnalls, of Derby, aged 64 years, who, after being refused admittance at the White Hart inn, Lenton, was received at a private house, and died in about ten minutes; Mr. Dean, cotton agent, of Hounds-gate, aged 38 years, who was killed in the collision; and Mr. Bolestridge, landlord of the Three Horse Shoes, Derby-road, who died at his own house, after a few days of acute suffering. Mr. Bradley, farmer, of Southwell, sustained a severe fracture of the left leg; Mr. Gretton, iron-master, of Stretton, received a very severe concussion of the spine; his daughter, Miss Gretton, was frightfully injured about the head; and Mr. Roberts, a commercial traveller, of Sneinton, was so injured that he had to submit to an amputation of the left leg. Many others were also dreadfully hurt.

1845.

1845

January 28.—Opening of the Mechanics' Hall, Milton-street. The Mayor and Town Council, attended by their servants in livery, walked in procession from the Police Office to the Institution.

1845

After partaking of tea, J. S. Wright, Esq., the President of the Institution, occupied the chair, and the Mayor, H. G. Knight, Esq., M.P., J. E. Denison, Esq., M.P., T. Gisborne, Esq., M.P., C. Paget, Esq., W. H. Barrow, Esq., the Rev. H. Alford, the Rev. J. Gilbert, Dr. Hodgson, of Liverpool, Mr. T. Wakefield, and Mr. T. Bailey, delivered appropriate addresses, to a meeting about a thousand in number.

February 20.—Mr. R. M. Muggeridge, a Commissioner sent by the Crown to inquire into the condition of the framework knitting population of the counties of Nottingham, Derby, and Leicester, presented his report to Parliament. The framework knitters had entered into a formidable union, with a view to their elevation in the social scale, but their efforts, being misdirected, proved abortive. The only result of this inquiry was the unsatisfactory and inoperative enactment, known as the Ticket Act.

April 4.—Mr. Richard Birkin, of New Basford, elected an Alderman, in the place of Mr. John Rogers, deceased.

April 16.—Died, at Bramcote, in his 70th year, Henry Enfield, Esq. He had been Town Clerk of Nottingham twenty-nine years, and was very highly esteemed in every relationship of life. His son, Mr. William Enfield, was appointed his successor.

May 7.—Mr. Charles Fellows, the youngest son of the late John Fellows, Esq., of Nottingham, received the honour of Knighthood, at her Majesty's levee.

June 26, 27, & 28.—Cricket match at Canterbury, between eleven of Kent and eleven of Nottingham. Our team were Mr. Noyes, Mr. Williams, Mr. Seddons, Mr. Batchelor, Clark, Barker, Guy, Butler, B. Parr, Dakin, and Redgate, who scored 47 and 67. Kent, only innings, 134, thus winning in one innings with 20 runs to spare.

June 30.—The General Inclosure Act received the Royal assent enclosing about 840 acres of the Sand and Clay Fields and Meadows, 47 acres of the Eastcroft, and 181 acres of the Forest and Mapperley Hill. Of this, about 120 acres were allotted to the Corporation, in trust for the inhabitants of Nottingham, for Baths, Public Walks, Cricket and Recreation Grounds, and Cemeteries, 4 acres for a Church Cemetery and a like quantity for the use of the Nonconformists.

July 14.—Mr. John Galloway elected a member of the Town Council for St. Ann's Ward, in the place of Mr. John Butler, deceased.

July 17 & 18.—Return cricket match at the Trent-bridge ground, between the counties of Nottingham and Kent. Nottingham was represented by P. Williams, Esq., Mr. Noyes, Barker, Chapman, Garratt, Guy, Butler, G. Parr, Clark, Tinley, and Redgate. Kent scored 65 and 86, and their opponents 130 and 22, Nottingham winning with eight wickets to go down.

September 4, 5, & 6.—Grand match on the same ground, eleven of England against fourteen of Nottingham, for £200 a

1845 side. The fourteen were Clark (their veteran leader), Oxcroft, Buttery, Barker, Guy, Butler, G. Parr, S. Parr, Brown, Redgate, Tinley, Gilbert, Heath, and the Rev. W. Musters. The eleven included the names of Pilch, Cornwall, Martingell, Box, Dorrington, Picknell, Hayward, Sewell, Royston, Hillyer, and Dean. Nottingham won the match, scoring 88 and 133, with six wickets to fall, to their opponents 95 and 125.

October 14.—The premises of Mr. Bates, framesmith, Wool-alley, were destroyed by a fire, which broke out between eight and nine in the evening. The three workshops were filled with machinery, and the conflagration raged nearly six hours. The damage was estimated at £1,400.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. *St. Ann's Ward*, J. Galloway and W. Sylvester; *Byron*, H. Cartwright and T. Hopkins; *Castle*, W. Page and W. Parsons; *Exchange*, W. Burgess and S. Parsons; *St. Mary's*, T. Adams and G. Shelton; *Park*, F. P. Hewitt and L. Hardy; *Sherwood*, B. Goodhead and W. Blackwell.

November 5.—Public dinner and presentation of a piece of plate to Mr. T. North, on his retirement from the office of Mayor, in testimony of the high approval of the subscribers of the impartial and zealous manner in which he had discharged its onerous duties. Mr. T. Wakefield presided, and the other speakers were Mr. T. H. Smith, Mr. W. Page, Mr. Alderman Birkhead, and Mr. Cowley.

November 10.—Mr. Alderman Thomas Herbert appointed Mayor; Mr. Nathan Hurst, junr., Sheriff.

The operative classes in the bobbin net and warp trades made a prolonged and determined effort, about this period, to induce the Legislature to pass an act prohibiting, so far as they were concerned, all night work, on the plea that it was destructive to trade, health, and morals; but the House of Commons refused to sanction the proposed interference.

The year is further memorable for an extraordinary movement known as "the railway mania." For several months the money market was deluged with a flood of prospectuses of railway schemes of every character; a Stock Exchange was established in the town; the most fabulous gains were reported; and amongst the holders of stock were clerks, small shopkeepers, and many of no capital whatever. When "the panic" came, nearly the whole of these projects dissolved into airy nothingness, and the holders of the scrip found themselves involved in ruinous expenses.

1846.

1846 February 27 & 28.—Election for South Nottinghamshire on account of the Earl of Lincoln having accepted the office of Irish Secretary. The noble Lord again came forward, but his Free Trade predilections being offensive to the Protectionists, they

nominated T. B. T. Hildyard, Esq. The result of the poll was as follows:—Hildyard, 1736; Lord Lincoln, 1049: majority, 687. 1846

February 28.—Nomination for the Northern Division, to supply a vacancy occasioned by the death of H. G. Knight, Esq. The Protectionists brought forward Lord Henry Bentinck; and Mr. T. Bailey nominated the Earl of Lincoln. Between the nomination and the polling, Mr. Bailey, at the request of his party, (Lord Lincoln's concurrence not having been obtained), issued a bill, requesting the Free Traders to abstain from voting. This was very generally complied with, and the two days' poll was extremely languid, and closed as follows:—Lord Henry Bentinck, 1741; the Earl of Lincoln, 218.

July 6.—Two brothers named Collyer committed suicide by hanging themselves in a shed near Shaw's-lane (Sherwood-street), under peculiar circumstances. During the previous August, they, along with their father, were charged at the Police Office with confining and illtreating their sister, 33 years of age. She was found in a bed-room in a house in Coal-court, Wollaton-street, miserably clad, her hair dishevelled, her finger nails grown like birds' claws, and her person in a most miserable condition. The old man said that his daughter had been out of her mind eighteen months, and would not go to bed, nor suffer herself to be undressed. She was sent to the poorhouse and from thence to the Asylum, and the inhuman trio were discharged; but it seems that the odium under which they laboured, and their having become embarrassed in business transactions, preyed upon the minds of the brothers and caused them to commit the rash act.

July 8.—Sir J. C. Hobhouse having nominally vacated his seat by accepting the office of President of the Board of Control, was re-elected Member for Nottingham, without opposition. The Right Hon. Baronet was nominated by F. Hart, Esq., and Mr. Alderman Herbert.

August 3.—Opening of the Nottingham and Lincoln Railway.

November 2.—The Municipal elections. *St. Ann's Ward*, N. Hurst, junr., and W. Knight; *Byron*, A. Wells and S. W. Moore; *Castle*, J. Tomlinson and W. Cripps; *Exchange*, T. North and K. Swann; *St. Mary's*, J. Hadden and G. Eddowes; *Park*, J. Bradley and W. Felkin; *Sherwood*, S. Fowler and S. Moore.

November 9.—Mr. William Cripps appointed Mayor; Mr. John Barber, Sheriff.

November 15.—An attempt was made to destroy Friar-lane chapel by setting fire to some combustibles near the pulpit. About eleven o'clock at night, Mr. Hibbs, of Sneinton-street, in passing, perceiving a glaring light, raised an alarm; and the fire brigade having arrived, in about an hour the fire was subdued, but not until the pulpit was completely destroyed, and much other damage done. Several gentlemen made a minute but fruitless examination to discover the incendiary, and at three in the morning they were about leaving the premises in charge of two policemen when a

1846 sudden flash of light burst up in a corner, and in an instant a number of basses, and the crimson lining of the Mayor's pew, were in a blaze. The fire was soon put out, and the safety of the building insured. The organ was greatly injured by the excessive heat; and the total damage amounted to several hundred pounds.

November 24.—Dinner at the Exchange Hall, to Mr. Thomas Herbert, the ex-Mayor, in testimony of the public appreciation of the manner in which he had discharged the duties of the office. Mr. T. Wakefield occupied the chair.

December.—Appointment of Mr. O. T. Oldknow as Postmaster, in the place of Mr. J. Crosby, deceased.

1847.

1847 *February 12.*—Death of Thomas Darker, of Darker's-court, Broad-marsh, aged 66 years. He was a bachelor, the descendant of an ancient and wealthy family, and in his habits was almost as parsimonious and eccentric as the noted Daniel Dancer. The immediate cause of his death was the strong excitement induced by a decision of the magistrates, compelling him to secure the mouth of an old well, which had become very dangerous. This had such an effect that it drove him mad, and he died the same week at the Lunatic Asylum. A great amount of gold and valuable securities was found secreted in his room.

June 3.—The Society of Friends held their first meeting in the newly erected chapel in Park-street.

July 28.—General election: nomination of borough candidates at the Exchange. The Right Hon. Sir J. C. Hobhouse was proposed by Mr. Alderman Birkhead and Mr. Smith Fowler; Thomas Gisborne, junr., Esq., by Mr. Alderman Vickers and Mr. Alderman Birkin; Mr. Feargus O'Connor, by Mr. Mott and Mr. Hemm; and John Walter, Esq., by Mr. J. Bowley and Mr. T. B. Redgate. The show of hands was greatly in favour of the two last mentioned; as was also the poll, which closed the next day as follows:—Walter, 1683; O'Connor, 1257; Gisborne, 999; Hobhouse, 893. Electors polled, 2,406; unpolled, 1,971. Plumpers—Mr. Walter, 608; Mr. O'Connor, 132; Mr. Gisborne, 113; and Sir J. C. Hobhouse, 39.

This was a very remarkable contest; each of the candidates had a separate committee, but it was not until after the nomination that the electors were at all canvassed, and then only to a very limited extent. Sir John and his colleague had calculated upon an easy victory; and Mr. Walter was nominated without his knowledge or consent. It is also remarkable that the hon. gentleman's father, Mr. Walter, senr., died the same morning, the 28th, in the 74th year of his age.

August 2.—Opening of the People's College.

August 3.—Thomas Houldsworth, Esq., and Lord Henry Bentinck re-elected for the Northern Division, without opposition.

August 5.—Lancelot Rolleston, Esq., and Thomas Blackburne Thoroton Hildyard, Esq., elected for the Southern Division.

August 9.—Cricket match at the Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of England, and the same number of Nottingham. On one side were F. Pilch, Brett, Hunt, Sampson, Chatterton, Eaton, Robey, White, Martingale, Clifford, and Wright; and on the other were Oscroft, C. Brown, H. Brown, G. Parr, Guy, Chapman, Heath, C. Tinley, Nixon, Bickley, and the Rev. W. Musters. Nottingham won, with ten wickets to spare.

August 10.—The election of Mr. Walter was celebrated by a public procession. The hon. member was met on the Derby-road by a number of gentlemen on horseback and an immense body of people, with numerous flags, banners, and bands of music, and having seated himself in a beautiful triumphal carriage, along with Mr. J. Bowley, Mr. T. Redgate, and Mr. T. H. Smith, the procession moved slowly down Tollhouse-hill, the Long-row, Pelham-street, Carlton-street, Hockley, Fisher-gate, Hollow-stone, the Pavement, Low-pavement, Albert-street, Wheeler-gate, South-parade, Poultry, High-street, and Smithy-row, to the Exchange Rooms, where Mr. Walter made a speech from the window of Room No. 30. In the afternoon, he dined in the Hall, with about two hundred of his leading supporters. Mr. J. Bowley occupied the chair, and amongst the speakers were Mr. T. B. Charlton, Rev. W. J. Butler, Mr. G. Rawson, Mr. Tyas, Mr. T. H. Smith, Mr. T. B. Redgate, and Mr. J. Swann.

August 19.—The veteran Green made a balloon ascent, his 370th, from the Barrack-yard, Nottingham Park. The balloon was composed of 12,000 yards of silk, in alternate stripes of crimson and yellow; measured 120 feet in circumference; contained 220,000 gallons of gas; and with the car attached was 68 feet high. Mr. Green was accompanied in the car by Mr. Foxcroft, solicitor, and Captain Forster. They rose at half-past five, and took a south-westerly direction over Beeston, remaining in sight for a long time. The shops in the Market-place and principal streets were closed; and the Park and house-tops and every elevated site were thronged with spectators. The voyagers descended at a quarter to nine, on the lawn of Staunton Harold Hall, the seat of Earl Ferrers, where they met with a very hospitable reception.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. For *St. Ann's Ward*, F. Herbert and J. Howitt; *Byron*, J. Hill and R. Knight; *Castle*, T. H. Smith and J. Bowley; *Exchange*, J. Burton and C. Beck; *St. Mary's*, W. Hannay and J. Cragg; *Park*, J. Hurst and F. Plant; *Sherwood*, J. Barber and W. Aulton.

November 8.—Festival at the Exchange Hall, in honour of the return of Mr. F. O'Connor. A company of about five hundred, of both sexes, sat down to tea. Mr. W. Mott presided,

1847 and the speakers were Mr. O'Connor, the Rev. W. Linwood, Mr. W. P. Roberts, and others. There was also a similar gathering at the Assembly Rooms, under the presidency of Mr. C. Roberts, and the speakers had to discharge a double duty.

November 9.—Mr. John Heard appointed Mayor; Mr. James Roe, Sheriff; and Messrs. J. Heard, F. Hart, H. Leaver, T. Herbert, R. Biddle, F. Judd, and R. Birkin, Aldermen.

November 12.—A fire broke out about ten in the morning, on the premises of Mr. Foster, hatter, Pelham-street. The stock was tossed out of the windows in the utmost confusion, but the damage was chiefly confined to the upper apartments.

November 13.—A more serious conflagration, on the premises of Mr. Spicer, hatter, High-street. The fire broke out late at night, and destroyed nearly everything, excepting the walls. A few days previously, Spicer had taken out a policy in the Manchester Fire Office, for a sum greatly exceeding the value of his stock, and he was taken into custody on suspicion that he had set fire to the property himself; he was liberated, however, on entering into recognizances to appear again when called upon.

December 1.—Mr. John S. Alderson elected Resident Governor of the Lunatic Asylum, in the place of Dr. Powell, deceased.

December 20.—Public dinner at the Exchange Hall, to Mr. W. Cripps, the ex-Mayor. Mr. S. Newham occupied the chair.

1848.

1848 *February 17.*—Death of Samuel Haywood, of Appleby, in the county of Leicester, aged 69 years. He had been the "Jack Ketch," of Nottingham, Derby, and Leicester more than thirty years, and had hung no less than forty-two persons.

March 25.—Death of John Smith Wright, Esq., of Rempston Hall, aged 74 years. He was president of the Nottingham Mechanics' Institution, and a gentleman of high character and extensive benevolence.

March 30.—Premises occupied by Mr. James Tomlinson, junr., as an oil manufactory, in Park-wharf, were entirely destroyed by fire. Several thousand gallons of oil and numerous barrels of tar, pitch, and resin, formed the chief material of the conflagration.

March.—The Revolution in France produced great distress amongst the lace hands of Nottingham extraction at Calais and Basse Ville. H. Smith, Esq., I. C. Wright, Esq., the Mayor, and other gentlemen, sympathising with them, commenced a public subscription, which amounted in the total to about £600. With the assistance of Government, a considerable number of the men and their families were conveyed to Australia.

April.—The early part of this month was a season of great public alarm. Wednesday, the 12th, was to have been "the great day," which some Chartists were wild enough to imagine would

usher in "the English republic." The precautions on the part of authorities were energetic and powerful; but nothing took place to require the use of any of them. 1848

May 19.—Re-opening of St. Mary's church for Divine service by the Bishop of Lincoln.

May 22.—Opening of the new Railway Station. It occupies an area 600 feet in length, and 94 in width.

July 3, 4, & 5.—Cricket match at Sheffield, between eleven of Nottingham and eleven of Sheffield. Our opponents won with six wickets to go down.

August 17 & 18.—The return match was played at Nottingham, when Sheffield again won with 85 runs to spare.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. *St. Ann's Ward*, J. Galloway and W. Sylvester; *Byron*, W. Eyre and H. Cartwright; *Castle*, W. Page and W. Parsons; *Exchange*, W. Burgess and J. Roe; *St. Mary's*, T. Adams and S. Turner; *Park*, L. Hardy and A. Lacey; *Sherwood*, B. Hawkrigide and J. Webster.

November 9.—Mr. Thomas Carver appointed Mayor; Mr. Edward Steegmann, Sheriff.

November 11.—Suicide of the Rev. Wm. Brown. It appeared that Mr. Brown, having formed the acquaintance of the daughter of the Rev. E. Bull, of St. James's church, solicited her hand. Mr. Bull wrote a kind letter, declining to accede to the proposal, on the ground of the extreme youth of his daughter, she being but 17 years of age. On receiving this letter the young clergyman became greatly agitated and excited and ran out of the house. Calling at Mr. Jackson's, gunsmith, Church-gate, he purchased a pistol, and loaded it with shot. About four o'clock, he was admitted into the Castle-grounds. As night was coming on, and he had not been seen to leave, a search was made for him, and his lifeless body was discovered. He had applied the pistol to his forehead, and blown out his brains. The jury at the inquest returned a verdict of "temporary insanity."

1849.

February 2.—Mr. Charles Sneath, of Arno Vale, elected an Alderman in the place of Mr. Henry Leaver, deceased. 1849

March 9.—Jenny Lind, the celebrated vocalist, took part in a concert at the Mechanics' Hall. She was received by the *élite* of the district with the utmost enthusiasm. The admission fees were a guinea and half-a-guinea. The proceeds approached £800.

April 17.—Mr. Robert Bromley, of Stoke, elected Member for the Southern Division, in the place of Colonel Rolleston, resigned.

July 30.—The corner-stone of the Particular Baptist chapel, Derby-road, was laid by Mr. S. M. Peto, M.P. for Norwich.

August 27.—A large public meeting, convened by the Mayor, was held at the Exchange, for the purpose "of making a public expression

1849 of sympathy towards the brave Hungarian patriots, and with a view of requesting Lord Palmerston to obtain the best possible terms for that unfortunate people." The Mayor presided, and speeches were made by Mr. J. Nieuberg, Mr. G. Gill, Mr. F. O'Connor, Mr. S. Bean, Mr. C. Roberts, and Mr. J. Harney.

September 30.—Early this morning, a fire broke out on the premises of Mr. Bingham, wholesale confectioner, Glasshouse-street, by which and the water about £400 worth of confectionery was destroyed.

October.—Several acts of insubordination amongst the men of the 3rd Dragoon Guards gave rise to several courts martial. It appeared that Colonel Arthur, when on parade at the Barracks, observed that some of the horses did not appear so clean and sleek as usual, and it occurred to him that the men, who had been indulged with great liberty the previous Fair week, had abused the privilege by neglecting their duty. Every one, therefore, whose horse was found in the condition alluded to, was ordered to remain in Barracks until its appearance improved. The men ascribed the condition of their horses to the season of the year, as the animals were beginning to cast their coats. Some days after, the delinquents having presented their horses on parade in a greatly improved condition, anticipated that the Colonel would countermand his order, but found that he had gone out of town, and would not return for several days. The same evening, about thirty of the disaffected scaled the wall, and proceeded to the Gate public-house, Brewhouse-yard, where they drank to excess. An armed picquet of ten men was sent in pursuit, and at ten o'clock found the deserters, who declared they would not be taken; and after a smart skirmish, in which the picquet drew their swords and the men threw heavy stones, the deserters effected an escape. They were, however, all apprehended in the course of a few days, and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment. The Commander-in-Chief ordered the immediate removal of the troops to Sheffield.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. *St. Ann's Ward*, N. Hurst and W. Knight; *Byron*, S. W. Moore and A. Wells; *Castle*, J. Tomlinson, senr., and T. Flamson; *Exchange*, T. North and K. Swann; *St. Mary's*, T. S. Oliver and E. Hart; *Park*, J. Bradley and W. Felkin; *Sherwood*, S. Fowler and E. Steegmann.

November 9.—Mr. Richard Birkin appointed Mayor; Mr. Thomas Ashwell, Sheriff.

November 13.—Mr. W. Taylor, confectioner, elected into the Town Council for Exchange Ward, Mr. Burton having been elected an Alderman, in the place of Mr. Sneath, who had resigned.

November 19.—The Corporate body gave a grand entertainment to the ex-Mayor (Mr. Alderman Carver), at the Exchange Hall, "as a public expression of their entire satisfaction with his labours in the civic chair." Mr. W. Hannay presided.

December 6.—Disastrous fire at the lace warehouse of Messrs. Hill & Swanwick, in St. Mary's-gate.

The Court of Peverel was abolished by Act of Parliament this year. From an article by Mr. Briscoe we learn that "Peverel Court was instituted by William Peverel, son of William the Conqueror. It was a Court of Pleas for the recovery of small debts and for damages in case of trespass; and its jurisdiction at one time extended over the whole of the honour of Peverel, which included 170 towns and villages in Nottinghamshire, 120 places in Derbyshire, and several places in Yorkshire and Leicestershire. The high stewardship of this court was termed 'The Honour of Peverel,' which office was first borne by the founder, who was succeeded by his son, Sir William Peverel. His office was subsequently held by Ralph Paynel, or Pagnal, (one of the Empress Maud's captains); the Crown; John, Earl of Morton, subsequently King John; Robert de Vavasour; Hugh de Stapleford; William de Eland; Rowland, Randal, and Hugh Revel; the Hutchinsons of Basford; Lord Goring; Charles, Earl of Norwich; Henry Goring; Charles, second son of the Earl of Norwich; Lord Wigorne; after him his sons, Charles, Lord Herbert, and Arthur Lord Somerset; Sir Thomas Willoughby; and his heirs until the dissolution of the Court in 1849. When Peverel Court was established it was ordered that the sittings thereof should be held in the Anglo Saxon Chapel of Saint James, the earliest establishment of the kind at Nottingham, the site of which is now occupied by the Independent Chapel in the street of that name. The sittings were held here for nearly two centuries, and when the court was removed by Edward II. to a more suitable place—the County Hall, in 1316, the town of Nottingham was exonerated from its feudal jurisdiction, and the chapel was given to the Carmelite Friars, to whose convent it stood contiguous. The high steward had the right to hold the sittings in any place within the jurisdiction of the county, and on William de Eland accepting that position in 1368, it was removed to Basford. The Court was held here uninterruptedly for a long series of years. The power of the Court lay dormant a considerable time until the appointment of Lord Goring to the office of high steward. Chadwick, a 'fellow of a most pragmatistical temper,' who 'picked up such ends of law' that he became a parcel-judge in Ireland, was the prime mover in getting the powers of the Court revived; and as his reward he executed the office under Lord Goring, 'to the great abuse of the country.' At the commencement of the parcel this fellow would have been presented for his pains, but, on the intercession of the high steward, this was not done, and from the beginning of that Parliament he did not execute that office, but became deputy-recorder of Nottingham under Lord Clare. In 1791, the gaoler was John Sands, who, in that year, opened the doors and allowed the prisoners to escape, because there was no food allowed for their support, and because if any of them died of want he would be liable to take his trial as a murderer. The Court of Peverel was then removed to Lenton, and the

1849 prisoners placed in the custody of Mr. Wombwell, who, in 1804, erected the White Hart inn, the apartments in the rear of which were used as a prison. About 1819 the Court sat about twice a year to try causes as high as fifty pounds, and was presided over by the deputy of Lord Middleton. The gaol was then situated at Basford, which Howard (the philanthropist), described as being one room with three beds for males, and another little room for female prisoners, but there being none in custody he applied the apartment to domestic uses. Close by the gaol was a bowling green, at which the company were waited upon by the prisoners, so that their confinement was not very rigorous. In 1815, the high sheriff's deputy was Mr. John Balguy, barrister, and Mr. S. Sanders, solicitor, the prothonotary. The Court was held every Tuesday, and the writs issued were returnable the next day to that on which they were issued; and a general Court, on which the high steward was supposed to preside, was held twice a year, these being called 'The Courts of Trials.' In 1832 the sittings of the Court of Peverel were held at Lenton every Tuesday; and that twice a year (October 25th and May 14th) the Court sat to try causes as high as fifty pounds. The Court of Peverel existed as a Court, under Lord Middleton, for the recovery of small debts and damages for trespass, until the year 1849, when the three surviving feudal courts—the Palace, the Marshalsea, and the Peverel—were abolished by Act of Parliament."

A copy of a "process" issued by this Court, of the year 1846, is preserved in the Library of Local Literature in connection with the Nottingham Free Public Libraries.

1850.

1850 *January 25.*—Fire at Mr. Wills's warehouse, Standard-hill, causing damage to the amount of about £500.

February 5.—Terrific gale, doing much damage. A stack of chimneys at the house of Mr. Smythe, Western-terrace, Nottingham Park, was blown down, falling through the roof and injuring several of the inmates. Much injury was also done, and many trees blown down in the villages in the neighbourhood.

April 3.—Foundation stone of the Baptist chapel, Mansfield-road, laid by J. Heard, Esq.

April 6.—Nottingham Corn Exchange, Thurland-street, opened. The principal room is 77 feet long by 55 broad, and about 40 feet high, and there are suitable offices attached. The cost was £3,000.

May.—Memorial window to the memory of the late Dr. Powell of the Lunatic Asylum, Carlton-road, placed in Sneinton church

June 4.—Re-opening of St. Mary's church after its restoration. 1850

June 6.—At a meeting held at the Exchange Hall it was agreed to form the Church Cemetery, comprising four acres allotted by the Enclosure Commissioners, and nine acres purchased.

July 1.—The public recreation walks in the fields and meadows first opened to the inhabitants.

July 9.—Opening of the Baptist chapel, Derby-road, by a division from the Particular Baptist congregation, George-street.

July 15.—Nottingham and Grantham Railway opened by the Great Northern Railway Company.

July 26.—Mr. Henry Sanders, of Liverpool, appointed clerk to the Nottingham Union, in the place of Mr. Absalom Barnett, deceased.

August 4.—Re-opening of Broad-street Baptist chapel after considerable alterations and improvements.

August 5.—Exhibition opened in the Mechanics' Hall by the Mayor (R. Birkin, Esq.) and Corporation. A wooden structure was added at the Trinity-street end of the building for machinery, which was exhibited in motion.

August 28.—Submarine Electric Cable successfully laid between Dover and Calais.

September 6.—Serious fire in the Goods Station of the Midland Railway, at Nottingham, causing damage to the amount of about £900.

September 20.—The following advertisement appeared in the *Nottingham Review* of this date:—"The public are respectfully informed that the passenger fares from Nottingham to Derby and all the stations between those towns, will be experimentally reduced about one-half, on and after Monday, 23rd of September." It was not found to answer, and after a time the fares were raised.

October 7.—Nottingham was visited by a frightful storm which overturned many stalls and bazaars in the Market-place. About one in the day, a lofty chimney surmounting the premises then occupied by Messrs. Hopkinson & Welch, grocers, at the bottom of St. James's-street, was blown down, tearing away a greater part of the roof, the front cornice, and a large quantity of lead, the whole mass weighing several tons. William Morrell, a boy of ten years of age, was killed on the spot, and a young woman from Derby, named Mary Dyer, 24 years of age, received such injuries that she died soon after. Morris Ingle, of Cotgrave, had his shoulder blade fractured, and other persons received various cuts and contusions.

October 23.—Opening of the General Baptist chapel, Milton-street, by a division from the Baptists meeting in Plumptre-place, Stoney-street. The plan is a parallelogram, and comprehends a chapel 73 feet long, 51 feet wide, and 31 feet high. Mr. William Booker was the architect, and the cost about £2,900.

November 1.—The Municipal elections, the whole of the wards being uncontested. *Byron Ward*, R. Knight and J. Hill;

1850 *Castle*, J. Bowley and T. H. Smith; *Exchange*, C. Beck and W. Taylor; *St. Mary's*, W. Harnay and J. Hadden; *Park*, J. Hurst and W. Chapman; *Sherwood*, J. Barber and W. Aulton.

November 1.—Lord Rancliffe died at Bunny Hall. He had been a *strong* supporter of the Radical or Democratic interest, and was put forward as their candidate at the memorable election for Nottingham, in October, 1812, when he received 1515 votes, being a majority of 275 over his opponent, Richard Arkwright, Esq. He was again returned in June, 1818, and also in June, 1826. His remains were interred in the family vault in Bunny church, on November 11th.

November 3.—Balwell new church consecrated; length 126 feet by 54. The cost was £3,000. H. Stevens, Derby, architect.

November 9.—Mr. William Felkin appointed Mayor; Mr. S. Wilmer, Sheriff; Messrs. Carver, Cullen, Lewis, Heymann, Wells, Reckless, Knight, and Percy, Aldermen.

December 16.—The Baths and Washhouses, Bath-street, opened.

December.—At this time gas was charged in Nottingham from 3s. 9d. to 4s. 9d. per 1000 cubic feet according to the quantity consumed.

1851.

1851 *January 12*.—Death of the Duke of Newcastle. Born Jan. 30th, 1785.

February 14 & 15.—Election for South Nottinghamshire. Mr. Barrow, 1493; Lord Newark, 1482; majority, 11.

March 31.—The population returns of the census this year, exhibited the subjoined results:—*St. Mary's*, houses, 9,324; males, 21,382; females, 24,347; total, 45,729. *St. Peter's*, houses, 1,232; males, 2,646; females, 3,186; total, 5,832. *St. Nicholas's*, houses, 1,218; males, 2,559; females, 3,287; total, 5,846. *Standard Hill and the Limits of the Castle*, houses, 117; males, 484; females, 528; total, 1,012. *Breckhouse Yard*, houses, 24; males, 53; females, 57; total, 110. *Radford*, houses, 2,600; males, 6,065; females, 6,570; total, 12,635. *Sneinton*, houses, 1,774; males, 3,887; females, 4,553; total, 8,440. Grand total—houses, 16,289; males, 37,076; females, 42,528; total, 79,604.

May 21.—Serious fire at Mr. Plant's warehouse, Mount-street.

June 21.—Nottingham and neighbourhood was visited by a violent storm of hail, snow, thunder, lightning, and wind, about mid-day. It being Saturday, a strong current of water from Parliament-street and Sheep-lane (now Market-street) rushed across the Market-place carrying with it a large quantity of crockery and other articles standing there for sale. Many cellars were filled, and much damage was done in many parts of the town by the violence of the storm.

July 17, 18, & 19.—Cricket match at Kennington Oval, between eleven of Nottingham and eleven of Surrey. Our team comprised F. Tinley, J. Guy, G. Parr, B. Parr, J. Grundy, S. Parr, C. Brown, G. Butler, T. Nixon, A. Clark, and W. Clark. Nottingham scored 48 and 104; Surrey 121 and 106, thus winning by 75 runs. 1851

July 24 & 25.—Trial of Sarah Barber and Robert Ingram before Mr. Baron Parke, for the murder of Joseph Barber (husband of the first named prisoner) by poisoning. She was found guilty and condemned, her sentence being afterwards commuted to transportation for life. Ingram was acquitted.

July 28.—Destructive fire at the house of Mr. Middleton, picture frame maker, Stoney-street, causing damage to the amount of about £600.

August 9.—Foundation stone of the Refreshment Rooms at the Arboretum laid.

September 1.—In digging for the foundations of the reservoir on St. Ann's-hill the workmen found a large cannon ball, giving rise to a supposition that at some period ordnance was stationed on that elevated spot. A description of the reservoir may be appropriately introduced here. It was formed by a deep square excavation being made in the centre of the table land at the summit of the hill, within which good solid walls of brickwork were constructed, 160 feet long and 80 feet wide; then in parallel rows were raised shafts of masonry, along which were turned no less than 288 arches, which entirely cover the whole reservoir, with the exception of two trap doors for the purpose of ingress and egress. The floor was puddled with soft clay, on which was laid a layer of bricks. To a spectator the interior presents the appearance of a cellar of interminable extent with brick arches overhead. The height within from the floor of the arches to the roof is 12 feet. Some idea of the altitude of the situation may be formed when it is stated that the reservoir is 50 feet higher than the top of Derby-road, from whence it obtains a portion of its supply of water, and is level with the top of Trinity church spire. Half a million of bricks were used in the formation of it, and the various works pertaining to it incurred an outlay of £8,000. A circular boundary wall of stone surrounds it and the surface is laid with grass. Mr. Jalland was the architect.

September 1.—During the excavation to form a new gas tank in the Eastcroft some remarkable discoveries were made. Several large trees were found imbedded at a considerable depth below the surface; also, a fine buck, in an excellent state of preservation, in such a position as to make it evident that some sudden catastrophe or revolution of nature had buried it in a moment beneath the superincumbent mass, by which it had been hidden for ages. A large piece of timber was also found, which from its shape and figure led to the supposition that it belonged to some boat or vessel of the ancient Britons.

1851

September 2.—As some workmen were excavating on the site of a house in Woolpack-lane, at the back of Hockley chapel, four human skeletons were found about fourteen feet below the surface. Two were large, and were those of a male and female. Though much decayed, sufficient was left to show that one of the coffins was made of elm and the other of oak; but with the exception of the bones and the teeth, which were perfect, and a few hairs adhering to the skull of the male, the remains had crumbled into dust. The other skeletons were small, and were not examined. It is supposed that three hundred years had elapsed since these mortal remains were consigned to mother earth, the house, which was pulled down to make room for the school-room and house attached to the chapel, having been built little short of two hundred years.

September 21 & 22.—Cricket match at the Trent-bridge ground, Nottingham, between eight gentlemen and three players, against eleven players of Nottingham, for the benefit of the widow of Samuel Redgate. The gentlemen scored 119 and 97; the players 100 and 68. The match was not very numerously attended, but the committee were enabled to hand over about £30 to the widow.

October 17.—About half-past ten this morning a circus, building for Mr. B. Franconi, on Derby-road, fell with a tremendous crash, while some workmen were engaged alating the roof, and several of them were seriously hurt.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. The only contest was in *Exchange Ward*, when the numbers were, W. Wright, 189; L. S. West, 170; Job Bradshaw, 114. The following were also elected:—*St. Ann's Ward*, W. Sylvester and H. Mallet; *Byron*, W. Eyre and A. Darby; *Castle*, W. Parsons and J. Brown; *St. Mary's*, T. Adams and S. Turner; *Park*, L. Hardy and B. H. Hine; *Sherwood*, J. Webster and B. Hawkrige. Eight Liberals and six Conservatives.

November 5.—Cook's match factory, Derby-road, burnt down.

November 9.—Mr. W. Felkin appointed Mayor the second time; Mr. T. Ball, Sheriff.

December 2.—Enthronement of Dr. Hendren as Roman Catholic Bishop of Nottingham.

During this year the site of Hanley Hospitals, Stoney-street, being required for warehouses they were re-built in Hanley-street, Wollaton-street.

British School, Bath-street, opened, removed from Canal-street.

1852.

1852

January 29.—William Barnes, a Mormon priest, drowned in the Trent, at Beeston. He was about leaving the country for Salt Lake, when a young woman named Elizabeth Jackson, of

Beeston Rylands, insisted on baptism by him previous to his departure. They proceeded to the Trent (which was much flooded) accompanied by friends, about half-past ten o'clock at night, when he walked into the water to find a suitable place, saying that he would call Jackson when he was ready for her. He had not proceeded more than two paces from the bank when he suddenly fell backwards and disappeared. In a moment afterwards he rose to the surface and screamed for help, and one of his friends, named Fox, being a good swimmer, immediately sprang into the stream and succeeded in reaching the dying man. A dreadful struggle ensued; for Barnes grasped Fox round the neck, who being incommoded with his clothes was unable to support him. Both were rapidly sinking when Fox by a desperate effort released himself and swam to the shore, where he lay for some time in a state of insensibility, and deceased was carried away by the current and sank near the middle of the stream. His body was recovered about six weeks afterwards.

April 21.—Three persons injured by the breaking of the chain connected with the hoist at the warehouse of Messrs. Adams and Page.

April 28.—About twelve o'clock, a female about 38 years of age, accompanied by her husband and two of his companions stood in the Market-place, near the sheep pens. The female was the wife of Edward Stevenson, rag merchant, Millstone-lane, and he had come to the determination, with her consent, to dispose of her by auction. A new rope, value sixpence, was round her neck. Stevenson, with his wife standing unabashed by his side, held the rope, and exclaimed, "Here is my wife for sale: I shall put her up at two shillings and sixpence." A man named John Burrows, apparently a navvy, proffered a shilling for the lot, and after some haggling she was knocked off at that price, and they all went to the Spread Eagle to sign articles of agreement, the lady being the only party able to sign her name.

April 29.—Two troops of the 11th Hussars left Nottingham Barracks, and were replaced by two troops and head quarters of the 2nd Dragoons or Queen's Bays.

May 2.—Immense seizure of stolen goods at a house in White Cow-yard, where two cart loads of silks, carpeting, and other property was found. Robert Fox was afterwards sentenced to fourteen years transportation for receiving the same.

May 11.—Opening of the Nottingham Arboretum. This beautiful place of recreation comprises an area of seventeen acres. It was laid out principally from the plans and under the direction of Samuel Curtis, Esq., F.L.S., of London. The following inscription is engraved on a brass plate in front of the west lodge: "These grounds, selected under the authority of the Act for enclosing the Commonable Lands in Nottingham, passed in the ninth year of the reign of Queen Victoria, were laid out by the Town Council of Nottingham in the year 1850, with the public

1852 funds of the town for the benefit and recreation of its inhabitants, pursuant to the provisions of the said Act, in the Mayoralty of Richard Birkin, Esq., under the direction of the committee appointed by the Town Council for the purpose."

May 15.—Fire at Keeley's dye houses, March-street, causing damages to the amount of about £400.

June 16.—Feargus O'Connor, M.P., removed to a Lunatic Asylum from the House of Commons.

June 25.—Early this morning, some musicians were returning in a phaeton from a concert, when on Derby-road the horse became unmanageable, and dashed the vehicle against a lamp-post. They were all more or less injured, and one man named Barnett so seriously that he died immediately on being carried to the Hospital.

June 25 & 26.—Cricket match at Kennington Oval, between Nottingham and Surrey. Our team comprised W. Clark, G. Butler, B. Parr, G. Parr, S. Parr, J. Guy, C. Brown, A. Clark, J. Grundy, J. Bickley, and M. J. Ellison, Esq. Nottingham scored 181 runs in their first innings, whilst Surrey in their two essays only obtained 138, leaving our townsmen victors by an innings and 43 runs.

July 6.—The nomination of candidates for the general election took place in the Exchange Hall, when Mr. J. Walter (Conservative) was nominated by Mr. Hannay and seconded by Mr. Newham; Mr. Strutt (Liberal) was nominated by Mr. C. Paget and seconded by Mr. Alderman Birkin; Mr. Sturgeon (Chartist) was nominated by Mr. Hemm and seconded by Mr. Bullock. At the close of the poll on the 7th, the numbers were, Strutt, 1960; Walter, 1863; Sturgeon, 512. There were two liberal candidates in the field, but the other (Mr. Gisborne) retired through ill health, and his death took place on the 20th of the same month.

July 13.—Mr. W. Hodgson Barrow and Lord Newark were elected, at Newark, for South Nottinghamshire without opposition.

July 17.—Lord Henry Bentinck and Lord Robert Clinton were elected, at Mansfield, for North Nottinghamshire. They were unopposed.

August 10.—Foundation stone of the Midland Institution for the Blind laid by the Right Hon. Earl Manvers.

August 27.—The *Review* of this date gives the following:—"We perceive that our benevolent townsman Geo. Gill, Esq., of the Park, is now causing to be erected at his own expense six handsome modern dwelling-houses in Plantagenet-street, St. Ann's Well-road, to be called the 'Working Man's Retreat,' for reduced tradesmen or widows over 60 years of age."

September 2, 3, & 4.—Return match at the Trent-bridge ground, between Nottingham and Surrey. Nottingham team comprised W. Clark, A. Clark, B. Parr, G. Parr, S. Parr, J. Guy, Bickley, Grundy, C. Brown, G. Butler, and Tinley. Surrey scored 112 and 134, Nottingham 209 and 38, with ten wickets to fall.

October 1.—Sir J. G. J. Clifton, Bart., died at Clifton Hall, 1852 aged 83 years, and was buried on the 8th at Clifton church. He was succeeded by his son, the late Sir Robert Juckes Clifton.

November 1.—At the Municipal elections the only wards contested were Byron and St. Ann's. In the former the late members were thrown out, and Messrs. Allcock and Pilkington elected. The return is as follows:—R. Allcock, 350; Pilkington, 350; S. W. Moore, 150; A. Wells, 150. *St. Ann's*, W. Knight, 388; N. Hurst, 387; E. Patchitt, 363; M. Marx, 348. In the other five wards the returns were as follows:—*Castle*, T. Flamson and J. Brewster; *Exchange*, T. North and K. Swann; *St. Mary's*, E. Hart and J. Wadsworth; *Park*, W. Felkin and J. Bradley; *Sherwood*, S. Fowler and E. Steegmann.

November 9.—Mr. T. Cullen appointed Mayor; Mr. W. Page, Sheriff.

November 13.—The greatest flood on record up to this date, with the exception of the memorable flood of 1795, reached its height about 8.30 p.m., when it was 14 feet 9 inches higher than the usual level of the Trent. On Saturday morning (the 13th), the traffic on the railway between Nottingham and Derby, Leicester, and Codnor Park was suspended, the water being in many places two feet deep on the rails. Between one and two o'clock on the morning of Saturday, a farmer of Wilford, named Clements, discovering that the water was swelling in an alarming manner, communicated with Mr. Abbott, the parish constable. In a short time the inhabitants were aroused from their slumbers, and under the superintendence of Mr. Pyatt and other intelligent residents, at once set about making preparations for the security of the village. Every person who could wield a spade was set to work, and as many horses and carts as they could manage were put in requisition to convey material for strengthening, raising, and repairing the bank. Many of the inhabitants removed their stock and furniture, fearing a recurrence of the terrible calamity of 1795, but happily their fears were not realised, though the flood lasted many days.

November 27.—Died, at 6, Great Cumberland-place, London, aged 36 years, Augusta Ada, wife of William, Earl of Lovelace, and only daughter of George Gordon Noel, Lord Byron. She left two sons and a daughter.

December 12.—Death of the Rev. Joseph Gilbert, pastor for 26 years of the Independent church meeting in Friar-lane.

December 27.—A terrible gale, which did much damage in Nottingham and neighbourhood, occurred early this morning, when a large portion of the zinc covering of the corridor adjoining the Refreshment Rooms, at the Arboretum, was blown completely over the wall at the back. One piece weighing upwards of two tons was carried a distance of about thirty yards, and one of the iron columns was embedded about three feet in the ground. Many trees were injured, and much glass was broken.

1853.

1853 *January 1.*—Re-election (unopposed) of the Right Hon. E. Strutt as representative of the Borough of Nottingham upon his taking office as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

February 21.—Plumptre House and grounds sold by auction by Mr. C. N. Wright, when after much spirited bidding it was knocked down to Mr. Alderman Birkin for £8,410.

May 6.—In the construction of a sewer on Smithy-row, at about the depth of two feet, the excavators found a thick layer of concrete, composed of particles of iron in firm cohesion with sand and gravel, the whole forming a solid mass of great hardness and weight. It is conjectured that this deposit was the result of the sweepings from the "row" of "smithies," which formerly extended from High-street to within a few yards of the Exchange.

May 16, 17, & 18.—Cricket match at Lords, between eleven of Nottinghamshire and eleven of All England. The Nottingham team, which was composed of Clark, B. Parr, G. Parr, S. Parr, J. Guy, R. C. Tinley, C. Brown, Grundy, F. Tinley, Nixon, and Bickley, scored 63 and 129. All England were represented by W. Nicholson, Dean, Julius Cæsar, Hunt, Box, Anderson, Caffyn, Wisden, Chatterton, Martingell, and Sherman, who scored 117 and 48, thus leaving Notts. the winners by 27 runs.

May 22.—Cook's match manufactory burnt down.

May 25.—National Exhibition of Tulips at the Corn Exchange, on this and the two following days, when 1,200 blooms were exhibited.

June 13.—General holiday on account of the first anniversary of the Nottingham Arboretum, on which occasion Mr. Chambers made an ascent in his balloon, accompanied by Mr. Kearsley, of the Midland Railway. The band of the 8th Hussars, under the leadership of Herr Kœnig, was engaged. The money taken at the gates amounted to £626.

July 4.—Head-quarters and two troops of the 8th Hussars left Nottingham Barracks for the camp at Chobham, previous to which a soldier named Henry Ryder received 25 lashes in the Riding School as part of his sentence of 50 lashes and two years imprisonment for insubordination to his superior officer, Colonel Shewel. He was taken to the Hospital previous to undergoing the other portion of his sentence.

July 19.—Opening of the New Bluecoat School, on Mansfield-road. It is built in the Elizabethan style, and presents frontages to Mansfield-road and Bluecoat-street. The school accommodation consists of a boys' room on the ground story, 42 feet 6 inches by 19 feet 6 inches, and a girls' room on the second story 21 feet by 19 feet 6 inches, and also a committee-room. On a tablet in front is the following inscription:—

BLUECOAT CHARITY SCHOOL,

Founded A.D. 1706,

By voluntary contributions, and further endowed with lands and tenements by

Charles Harvey, A.D. 1711,

William Thorpe, A.D. 1720,

Gilbert Beresford, A.D. 1747,

Joseph Peake, A.D. 1753,

Was removed, A.D. 1853, from the School-house in the High-pavement, to
this building.

Erected A.D. 1853.

T. C. Hine, Architect.

The children mustered at the old building with boughs and garlands of every description, beautifully ornamented with beads, necklaces, natural and artificial flowers, &c. They started in procession at eleven o'clock, and headed by a band proceeded along Low-pavement, Wheeler-gate, the Market-place, and Clumber-street to the new building. The opening service was conducted by the Rev. J. W. Brooks, vicar of St. Mary's church.

August 1.—Election of a Councillor for Byron Ward. At the close of the poll the numbers were Mr. Moore (L) 222, Mr. Comyn (C) 115.

August 3.—Opening of the Corn Exchange as a General Exchange by a public dinner in the large hall, on which occasion covers were laid for 200.

August 29 & 30.—Cricket match at Brighton, between Nottingham and Sussex. Our team comprised W. Clark, B. Parr, G. Parr, S. Parr, Grundy, R. C. Tinley, Guy, A. Clark, F. Tinley, Bickley, and C. Brown. Sussex scored 68 and 60, Nottingham 136, thus winning by an innings and 8 runs.

August 30.—Head-quarters of the Scots Greys arrived in Nottingham.

September 5, 6, & 7.—The return cricket match, between Nottingham and Sussex, was played on the Trent-bridge ground. Our townsmen scored 100 and 69, Sussex 98 and 72 with three wickets to fall.

September 7.—A cow walked up a flight of stairs into the warehouse of S. Wills & Co., Wheeler-gate. Ropes had to be used to lower it again to the street.

September 8 & 9.—A cricket match was played at Kennington Oval, between Surrey and Nottingham. Surrey scored 68 and 69, Nottingham 161, thus winning by an innings and 24 runs.

September 21.—Consecration of Dr. Roskell as Roman Catholic Bishop of Nottingham by Cardinal Wiseman, at St. Barnabas's cathedral.

October 12.—Re-opening of George-street chapel after material alterations.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. *St. Ann's Ward*, D. New (L) and N. Dickinson (L); *Byron*, J. Hill (L) and T. Oliver, senr., (L); *Castle*, J. Bowley (C) and T. H. Smith (C); *Exchange*, C. Beck (L) and W. Taylor (L); *St. Mary's*, W. Han-nay (C) and E. Patchitt (C); *Park*, W. Chapman (L) and J. L. Thackeray (L); *Sherwood*, W. Page (L) and G. Batters (L). None of the wards were contested.

1853 *November 9.*—Mr. J. Reckless appointed Mayor; Mr. A. J. Mundella, Sheriff; and the following retiring Aldermen re-elected: Messrs. Heard, Hart, Burton, Herbert, Biddle, Judd, and Birkin.

November. — Midland Institution for the Blind opened. It is situate at the junction of Clarendon and Chaucer-streets. The style is Elizabethan, and the principal front in Clarendon-street is 96 feet in length, and it is 104 feet deep. The site was given by the late Mr. Samuel Fox. There is accommodation for 22 male and 22 female pupils.

1854.

1854 *January 3.*—E. J. Lowe, Esq., of Highfield House, gives the following statistics:—The cold of January 2nd and 3rd as compared with other cold days observed here since 1809.

1854.	January	3	...	4	degrees below zero.
1816.	February	9	...	2	" above "
1814.	January	13	...	3	" " "
1814.	January	9	...	4	" " "
1841.	January	...	...	4	" " "
1814.	January	14	...	5	" " "
1820.	January	1	...	6½	" " "
1823.	January	19	...	6½	" " "

On the 14th March, 1845, the temperature on grass fell 1 degree below zero. On the 3rd of January, 1854, a thermometer similarly situated fell 6 degrees below zero. Mr. Lowe stated in the April following that in their own grounds they had cut down above a hundred cart loads of dead trees during the previous month.

January 13.—A thaw being succeeded by a severe frost, the great Market-place presented the appearance of an immense sheet of ice, upon which upwards of a thousand persons were skating and sliding.

January 19.—The frost went away rapidly, causing the Meadows and land adjacent to the Trent to be deeply inundated.

January 26.—Nottingham was visited by an unusual phenomenon at this time of the year—a thunder storm. Several vivid flashes of lightning and heavy peals of thunder were both preceded and followed by sharp showers of hail and rain. Between ten and eleven a.m., the darkness was such that in many warehouses and offices the gas had to be lit. There had been nothing equal to it in the winter months since December 14th, 1825. The last flash of lightning was deep blue. During the storm a girl was killed by a piece of deal blown from the top of St. George's Hall, then building.

February 1.—Commencement of the laying out of Nottingham Park for building purposes.

February 3.—Mr. C. James elected Councillor for Byron 1854 Ward in the place of Mr. T. Oliver, deceased.

February 15.—An infuriated bullock, after racing along Parliament-street, Bunkers-hill, Haughton-street, Thurland-street, Pelham-street, and Clumber-street, was attracted by a red shawl hanging at Mr. Scott's shop door. It dashed its head through the glass and tossed the shawl about the street. It next attacked a butcher named Chas. Simpkins, but he evaded the charge by falling down, and it then bounded along High-street knocking down a man named Dido, well-known in the horse market. After visiting the shop of Mr. Crocker, hair-dresser, it again encountered Dido, and once more knocked him down. It next struck at two men in the Poultry, and afterwards attacked Mr. Withers (Station-master at Grantham), whom it knocked down against the Poultry hotel. Mr. Withers attempted to reach the hotel yard, when the bullock again caught him, pinning him to the ground under the window. He was not, however, so badly hurt as was expected. The persevering Dido, declaring he would be equal to the beast yet, seized it by the tail, and cut the tendons of its hind legs with his pocket knife. It was afterwards killed by a butcher named Wm. Breedon. Several other persons were injured besides those mentioned.

March 20.—Foundation-stone of the Wesleyan Free church, Shakespere-street, laid by the Rev. Hunter. The following is an abstract from a parchment scroll placed in a cavity of the stone:—“This edifice will be consecrated to the worship of the adorable Trinity, and the dissemination of religious truth by the church at present known by the name of Wesleyan Reformers, who are anxious to secure a more peaceful and permanent home, where they and their families may sit under their own vine and fig tree, none daring to make them afraid. Chapels, 5; preachers, 22; other places of worship including the Mechanics' Hall, 8; church members, 570; Sabbath schools, 12; scholars in ditto, 1,096.”

March 27.—Died, at Welbeck, his family seat, William Henry Cavendish Bentinck, fourth Duke of Portland. He was born in London, on the 24th of June, 1786, and he succeeded to the dukedom on the death of his father, October 30th, 1809.

March 28.—Declaration of war against Russia by England and France.

April 26.—General fast day to pray for the success of the British arms in the war against Russia. The Mayor and Corporation went in procession to St. Mary's church, and special services were held in most of the churches and chapels. Collections were made for the wives and children of the soldiers and sailors serving in the east.

May 16.—St. George's Hall opened by a concert, in which Mr. and Madam Weiss, Mr. Lockey, Miss Arabella Goddard, and other eminent artists took part. The proceeds were devoted to

1854 the fund in aid of the families of soldiers serving in the Russian war.

May 28.—Several violent thunder storms passed over Nottingham and neighbourhood. Various places were struck by the electric fluid, but no serious damage was done.

June 5 & 6.—Cricket match at Lord's, between eleven of Nottingham and eleven of All England. The local team were W. Clark, A. Clark, R. C. Tinley, F. Tinley, S. Parr, G. Parr, Davis, Brampton, Grundy, Bickley, and C. Brown. All England scored 159 and 117, Nottingham 115 and 102, thus losing by 59 runs.

June 12.—Kossuth spoke in Nottingham on the affairs of Hungary, Poland, and Turkey.

June 19.—Second anniversary of the Arboretum observed as a general holiday. The band of the Scots Greys was engaged, and the veteran Green should have ascended in his balloon; but in consequence of the boisterousness of the wind the balloon rolled very much in the process of filling, and shortly before the time fixed for his ascent it caught one of the rails of the enclosure, which tore a large rent in the upper surface through which the gas rushed with a loud noise, causing it to collapse immediately. The receipts were about £606.

July 3.—The Scots Greys, numbering about 120 men, marched into the great Market-place to meet the Mayor and Corporation, previous to leaving Nottingham for the seat of war. The troops formed a square, in the centre of which the Corporation were met by Colonel Griffiths and officers of the regiment; when the Mayor (J. Reckless, Esq.,) said, "Colonel Griffiths, it is always a pleasure to drink the Queen's health, and in doing so to-day I may express a hope that her Majesty's ministers will be firm in their decision, and that the war may soon come to a happy and honourable conclusion." The toast was drank with three-times-three, the ancient gold drinking cup presented by Henry, Duke of Newcastle, to the Guild of Nottingham in 1681, being used on the occasion. While the cup was being passed round and the soldiers served with Nottingham ale, the band played "The Girl I left behind me," "Scots wha hae," &c. The Mayor proposed the health of the regiment in a well-timed speech, complimenting the men for their good conduct and military bearing, concluding as follows:—"When I was a little boy, some 13 or 14 years of age, I saw this same regiment march out of Nottingham to Waterloo. It was to me the grandest sight I ever saw. I have witnessed many exciting scenes in my time, but never one that made so deep an impression on my mind as that. You marched to Waterloo, and you obtained glory: I trust the like glory awaits you in the east. You have with you the good wishes of the town of Nottingham, and everyone will watch your proceedings with the greatest interest. Good luck to you, and God bless you and all your exertions in the cause of your country." This toast was

drank in the same manner as the other. The Colonel responded, and after other toasts and speeches the soldiers fell into marching order, waving their swords in acknowledgment of the waving of the ladies' handkerchiefs from nearly every window and the cheering of the vast multitude, the Market-place being literally crowded, and proceeded on the road to Derby. 1854

July 3, 4, & 5.—Cricket match at the Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Nottingham and eleven of Surrey. Nottingham scored 46 and 141, Surrey 121 and 163, thus winning by 97 runs.

July 21.—Mrs. Hadden, the wife of John Hadden, Esq., was boiling preserves at a stove in the kitchen of their house at Bramcote, when her dress, a muslin one, caught fire, and before assistance could be rendered, she was so badly burned that she expired on the following morning.

August 21 & 22.—Return cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Nottingham and eleven of All England. Nottingham scored 110 and 91, All England 208, thus winning by an innings and 7 runs.

August 24, 25, & 26.—Cricket match at Godalming, between eleven of Nottingham and eleven of Surrey. The home team scored 113 and 107, Nottingham 100 and 55, thus losing by 65 runs.

September 5 & 6.—Bread riots, during which some thousands of bakers' windows were broken in Nottingham, Sneinton, and Radford. Mr. Bonser, baker, of the latter place, fired on the mob from a chamber window, wounding four or five persons. He was committed to the next March Assizes, when he was acquitted.

September 24.—Wesleyan Reform chapel, Shakespere-street, opened by the Rev. James Bromley, of Bath. The chapel measures within the walls $81\frac{1}{2}$ feet by 41 feet, and will seat on the ground floor from 700 to 800 persons. The cost was about £2,500. Mr. Simpson was the architect. The following brief account of some of the incidents of the Wesleyan Reform movement may prove interesting. In the years 1846 and 1847 certain anonymous "fly sheets" were issued at intervals and circulated amongst the Wesleyan community, reflecting with much ability and with a mixture of biting sarcasm, upon the administration of Methodist affairs. The conference instituted an inquisition to discover the author or authors; and at the conference at Manchester in 1849, subjected some of the suspected parties to the question direct respecting the authorship of the said fly sheets, under a law enacted in 1835. This question several of the preachers declined to answer, alleging as a reason that they would not sanction such an inquisitorial proceeding. Three of these non-answerers, Messrs. Everitt, Dunn, and Griffiths, were pronounced "contumacious" and formally excommunicated. The Rev. S. Dunn was stationed at Nottingham; and being a preacher of ability and untiring zeal, he had

1854 great influence with the Wesleyan people. These proceedings caused a great sensation throughout the Wesleyan community. Public meetings were held, and the necessity for reform in the principles and administration of the conference became everywhere felt and acknowledged. In March, 1850, more than 300 persons, chosen in various ways by the Methodist people, met in London, and sought an interview with the then president, the Rev. Thomas Jackson, which was refused. A memorial was then prepared for presentation to the ensuing conference, which in the course of a few weeks received 56,000 signatures. The conference met in London in 1850, and although distrust everywhere prevailed, 52,000 having ceased to be members, the same spirit prevailed, and another victim was added to the three previously expelled, in the person of the Rev. Francis Bromley. We have not space to give full details of the movement; suffice it to say that from August, 1849, to September, 1854, 120,000 members of the Wesleyan community were separated from it, either by expulsion or by voluntary secession. The secession of the new party from Halifax-place and Wesley chapels in 1849 necessitated their seeking for a place of worship, and for some time the reformers met in the Corn Exchange; subsequently the Mechanics' Hall was obtained, and the number and resources of the local society increasing, it was determined to build the chapel, the opening services of which we have chronicled.

October 26.—Foundation-stone of the chapel and day ward at the General Hospital laid by Earl Manvers. The building was raised one story. George Gill, Esq., gave £1,000 towards it.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. For *St. Ann's Ward*, Mallet (L) and Sylvester (L); *Byron*, James Edwards (L) 245, J. Sweet (L) 244, and William James (C) 171; *Castle*, W. Parsons (C) and Brown (C); *Exchange*, Greaves (C) 250, Starkey (C) 251, West (L) 210, and Wright (L) 207; *St. Mary's*, T. Adams (C) and S. Turner (C); *Park*, L. Hardy (L) and W. Wright (L); *Sherwood*, Ball (L) 280, Gadd (L) 280, W. Williams (C) 90, J. Webster (C) 83, B. Hawkrigge (C) 74.

November 9.—Mr. J. L. Thackeray appointed Mayor; Mr. W. V. Copeland, Sheriff.

December 7.—Vote of the Town Council, thanking him for his various munificent donations to public objects in the town, presented to G. Gill, Esq.

1855.

1855 *January.*—A new statue of Justice, made of Ancaster stone by a local sculptor named Stonehouse, erected on the Exchange in place of the old one, which was much dilapidated. Its height is 8 feet from the base, and it weighs 35 cwt.

February 24.—A very severe frost, which had lasted for several weeks, broke up. It was the most intense frost since 1837. The *Review* says that the ice on the canal was about 9 inches thick, in 1820 it was 16 inches, and in 1814, 19½ inches. 1855

March 6.—In consequence of the great depression in trade pauperism had much increased. It was announced at the Board of Guardians that during the past week there were in the house 860, and that out-door relief had been paid to 3,091 persons at a cost of £205 5s. 3d.; and at the board meeting on March 13th, the following statistics were given:—"For the 52 weeks ending March, 1854, the average weekly out-door relief had been 1717, at a cost of £116 13s. 0½d.; and for the 52 weeks ending March, 1855, the average number had been 2,029, at a cost of £140 6s. 6½d. In the former period the average number weekly in the house was 373, while in the latter year it had been 543.

April 8.—Wesleyan Free church, Park-row, opened, when the Rev. H. Breedon, Wesleyan Association minister, preached two sermons. It will seat about 800 persons. This chapel has since had the interior elegantly fitted up, and is now used by the Church of England, under the name of St. Thomas's church.

April 19.—Fire in some workshops belonging to Mr. Leake, cabinet-maker, at the back of Maypole-yard.

May 1.—An urn containing a quantity of brass and copper Roman coins, principally of the reigns of Hadrian, Titus, and Domitian, were found by some workmen near the Windmill tavern, Radford, about two feet below the surface.

May 11.—The tunnel leading into the Park from Derby-road completed.

June 1.—The following is copied from the *Review* of this date:—"The month that has just taken its departure commenced with hail-storms, snow-storms, and gales of wind from the north-east (roaring through the leafless trees), which lasted without rain (though much wanted) until the 25th, when suddenly we were plunged into a July temperature, which continued until the 28th, when the wind again moved to the north and the gale became more severe than before. This has been the worst May ever recorded, and as a consequence vegetation was never known so backward on the first of June as it is to-day."

June 25.—The third anniversary of the opening of the Arboretum was observed as a general holiday, when amongst the attractions the veteran Green made his 270th ascent in his balloon, accompanied by Mr. Edward Cullen. In rising the car caught the front coping of the house of Mr. L. Baillon, but without injury to the car or its occupants. They attempted to descend at Pickworth, nine miles beyond Grantham, but the current had become so strong that the rope connecting the anchor snapped, and they were blown about, and dashed through trees and hedges until the balloon was completely destroyed; though fortunately the aeronauts escaped with sundry scratches and bruises. The worth of the

1855 balloon was about £500, the silk alone having cost £300. There were about 8,500 visitors by excursion trains, and the receipts were £503.

July 2.—Mr. Green passed over Nottingham in the "Nassau" balloon.

July 10.—Formal opening of the extensive warehouse of Messrs. Adams & Co. The frontage to Stoney-street is 144 feet, and the depth of the building to Mary-gate is 160 feet. Since the above date the warehouse has been very considerably enlarged.

July 10.—Tremendous thunder storm, during which much damage was done and many of the streets in the lower parts of the town rendered for the time impassable through the immense deluge of water.

August 16, 17, & 18.—Grand cricket match on the Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Nottingham and five of Kent and six of All England. The Nottingham players were A. Clark, Grundy, S. Parr, G. Parr, C. R. Tinley, Jackson, Bickley, Need, W. Clark, and E. L. Bateman, Esq. Our team scored 138 and 162, their opponents 190 and 111, with the loss of three wickets.

August 20 & 21.—Nottinghamshire Militia or Sherwood Foresters passed through Nottingham by rail en route to the camp at Aldershot.

August 25.—A man sold his wife in St. Peter's-square for 1s. and a pint of ale.

August 28.—The 7th Hussars left Nottingham, and were not replaced, the lease of the Barracks expiring on the 25th of September, 1855.

August 30.—Death of Feargus O'Connor, Esq., at his sister's house, Albert-terrace, Notting-hill, aged 59 years. He represented the borough of Nottingham in Parliament from 1847 to 1852. A monument to his memory, consisting of a pedestal surmounted by a statue in stone, was erected in the Arboretum by a few of his admirers, and unveiled August 22nd, 1859.

August 31.—Died at his house at Sneinton, aged 80 years, Richard Morley, Esq., J.P. of the Borough, and one of the firm of I. & R. Morley, of Gresham-street, London, and Fletcher-gate, Nottingham. For many years he had been one of the deacons of the Independent church meeting in Castle-gate, and was also for a number of years chairman of Radford Board of Guardians. He was elected Mayor of Nottingham in 1836, and again in 1841.

September 3, 4, & 5.—Cricket match on the Nottingham Forest, between eleven of All England and eighteen of Nottingham, for the benefit of Charles Brown. The eighteen scored 89 and 81, and the eleven scored 128 and 43, with the loss of six wickets.

October 3.—Great gala at the Arboretum, when amongst other entertainments there was a grand representation of the siege and fall of Sebastopol. It was estimated that there were from fifteen to twenty thousand people present.

October 8.—Bi-centenary celebration of Castle-gate meeting-house, when the foundation-stone of Albion chapel, Sneinton, was laid by Mr. Alderman Herbert. 1855

October 24.—A general meeting of the directors was held at the General Lunatic Asylum, when it was agreed to dissolve the union between the town and county, the asylum on Carlton-road having been for the use of both; and that a committee, composed of Earl Manvers, Viscount Galway, W. H. Barrow, Esq., R. Birkin, Esq., &c., be formed for the purpose of procuring a site and obtaining plans for a new asylum for the town of Nottingham.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. The only opposition was in *St. Mary's Ward*, where, at the close of the poll, the numbers were, E. Hart 281, J. Wadsworth 258, J. Tilson 150; *St. Ann's*, W. Knight and N. Hurst; *Byron*, Pilkington and L. S. West; *Castle*, T. Flamson and J. Brewster; *Exchange*, T. North and K. Swann; *Park*, W. Felkin and J. Bradley; *Sherwood*, S. Fowler and E. Steegmann.

November 9.—Mr. Richard Birkin appointed Mayor; Mr. F. E. Shipley, Sheriff; and Mr. Wm. Vickers elected Alderman in the place of Mr. Heard, who had ceased to be a ratepayer of the borough.

November 15.—One of the most dense fogs ever experienced in Nottingham created no small cessation to shop business, and in many cases led to ludicrous mistakes.

November 30.—Mr. George Gill, founder of the People's Hall and the Working Men's Retreat, Lamartine-street, died at his residence, Nottingham Park, aged 77 years. He was born at Wilford, near Nottingham, on January 9th, 1779, of which parish his father, the Rev. Wm. Gill, was curate. His remains were interred in the General Cemetery, December 5th.

December 28.—The Sherwood Foresters, or Nottinghamshire Militia, numbering nearly 800 men, landed at Dublin from Liverpool, on their way to Athlone. They remained at Athlone until May 24th, 1856, when they returned to Newark after nine months absence, and were disembodied on the 3rd of July following.

December 31.—Mr. John Fawcet Saville, lessee of the Nottingham Theatre, died. He was interred in the General Cemetery, January 3rd, 1856.

1856.

January 15.—St. Matthew's church consecrated by the Lord Bishop of Lincoln. 1856

February 11.—In consequence of opposition between the Midland and Great Northern Railway Companies they both commenced running fast trains (3½ hours) from Nottingham to London for three shillings. This continued until the end of the month,

1856 when the difference between the companies having been settled they returned to the ordinary fares.

February 19.—A notice appeared in the *London Gazette* to discontinue burials forthwith in St. Mary's, St. Peter's, and St. Nicholas's churches, and in Castle-gate and Friar-lane chapels; and on and after July 1st, 1856, in the church-yards of St. Mary's, St. Peter's, and St. Nicholas's, and in the burial grounds of St. Mary's Nos. 1, 2, and 3, also in the burial grounds in Broad-marsh, Rosemary-lane, Stoney-street, Broad-street, Parliament-street, George-street, Mount-street, St. James's-street, and Castle-gate, except in family vaults and walled graves which can be opened without disturbance of soil, and in which each coffin shall be embedded in powdered charcoal and separately entombed in an airtight manner.

March 28.—Jenny Lind Goldschmidt at the Mechanics' Hall. She left £30 for the Organ Subscription Fund.

April 20.—St. Mark's church opened. The cost of the erection was £5,000. The living is about £160.

May 13.—The ratification of the treaty of peace with Russia was celebrated by a procession of the Mayor and Corporation, Pensioners, Yeomanry, Odd Fellows' lodges, Sunday school children, &c. The various bodies assembled in the Market-place, and after singing the National Anthem, passed along Pelham-street, Carlton-street, Stoney-street, Pavements, Castle-gate, the Hollows, Ropewalk-street, and Derby-road into the Market-place; where the Pensioners fired a *feu de joie*. The first portion of the procession left the Market-place at twenty-five minutes past ten, and it was twenty-five minutes past twelve before the last portion left it. It was calculated that at one time there were at least 100,000 persons congregated there. In the evening many buildings were illuminated, and the festivities were to have closed with a grand display of fireworks in the Market-place; but the weather during the latter part of the day being unfavourable that portion was postponed until the 18th, when they were displayed with great success in the presence of about 50,000 persons, concluding with a temple of Peace and Concord, composed of 2,000 jets of fire, of red, green, and purple leaves, with the words peace and concord, surmounted by the figure of fame, and displaying the flags of the allies, England, France, Sardinia, and Turkey, the Borough Arms, &c.

June 16.—A child burnt to death at the Jolly Anglers, Plumtre-street. The heat through the wall from a chimney on fire had set fire to a chest of drawers in the room, from which the fire had communicated with the bed in which the child lay.

June 16.—Fourth anniversary of the Arboretum observed as a general holiday, and amongst other entertainments, Mr. Coxwell made an ascent in his balloon accompanied by Mr. Ed. Cullen, the same gentleman who went up with Mr. Green the previous year. The receipts were £594.

June 18.—Church cemetery consecrated by the Bishop of Lincoln. The first interment was made on June 20th. Mr. Edwin Patchitt in a letter to the directors of the company, states that in the progress of the works skulls, leg bones, arm bones, and other relics of human bodies were met with, evidently of remote deposit, as many when exposed to the atmosphere crumbled under the touch. In one place, where several remains were clustered together, the marks of method in their burial were evident, in other cases no marks of care were visible; but the bones were generally discovered amongst loose sand or the debris of rock. Not the slightest remains of coffins were found at any time. Numerous remains of pillars, arches, and arched cavities were found, and a particular description of aperture as if for the purpose of habitation was frequently repeated. Three of these have been preserved. Opening to the valley an archway was discovered, connected with a large circular mass of rock, which presented the appearance of several caverns which had evidently been roofed over. The legs of the arches were in some places standing. The archway appeared to have been used as a means of communication between one cavern and another. In clearing out some of these, the discovery of rough looking pistols, small crowbars, and similar weapons, evidently long buried and completely corroded, told a tale upon which comment is needless.

June 19.—Cinder Hill church consecrated by the Bishop of Lincoln. It will seat from 500 to 600. The foundation stone was laid by the Duke of Newcastle, March 3rd, 1855.

July 1.—This month opened with a sharp frost. At four o'clock a.m. the thermometer stood at 29 degrees, 3 degrees below freezing points; the fields, hedges, and trees being white with rime, and ice was formed of considerable thickness.

July 21.—Death of Dr. J. C. Williams, physician, of Nottingham, through a fall from his carriage near the top of Derby-road the previous evening.

July 30.—Mr. C. Paget elected M.P. for Nottingham, in place of the Hon. E. Strutt, who had been created Baron Belper. There was no opposition.

August 4, 5, & 6.—A cricket match was played at the Trent-bridge ground for the benefit of Joseph Guy, between eleven of England and eighteen gentlemen and players of Nottinghamshire. The eleven scored 95 and 49, the eighteen 97 and 137, thus winning by 90 runs.

August 10.—Died at his residence, Highfield House, near Nottingham, Alfred Lowe, Esq., aged 67 years.

August 14.—Opening of the Albion chapel, Sneinton. It will seat about 800 persons, and the cost, including the land, was nearly £3,650.

August 21, 22, & 23.—Cricket match played at Newark, between eleven of All England and eleven of Nottinghamshire. The representatives of All England scored 84 and 84, and the home team 82 and 79, thus losing by 7 runs.

1856

August.—Burial service first read in the chapel in the bottom portion of the General Cemetery, and about the same time the enclosure of the four acres allotted by the Inclosure Commissioners, bounded by Clarendon-street, Waverley-street, and Cromwell-street was completed.

September 30—Death of Mr. R. Sutton, of Radford Grove, proprietor of the *Nottingham Review*, aged 67 years. He had had the management of the above mentioned newspaper for upwards of forty years.

October 17.—Memorial window at the end of the chancel of St. John's church. The left hand compartment, representing the birth and crucifixion of our Saviour, is dedicated to John Montagu Valpy, M.A., incumbent of the parish. The central compartment contains three medallions illustrative of the life of St. John the Baptist, and is in memory of John Bradshaw, died September 21st, 1855. The right hand compartment is in two medallions, representing incidents of the resurrection, and has this inscription, "To the memory of John Clarke, who was drowned in the Trent, 26th of June, 1856, this window is dedicated by his employers and fellow workers."

October 23.—Died at his residence, Old Basford, aged 71 years, Thomas Bailey, Esq., formerly a wine merchant of Nottingham, and author of *Annals of Nottinghamshire, &c.* His remains were interred in the family vault in Basford Cemetery.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. *St. Ann's Ward*, Wm. Wright and J. Howitt; *Byron*, J. Hill and C. James; *Castle*, J. Bowley and J. Page; *Exchange*, C. Beck and W. Taylor; *St. Mary's*, W. Hannay and E. Patchitt; *Park*, W. Chapman and J. L. Thackeray; *Sherwood*, W. Page and T. Simpson. *Byron* and *St. Mary's* were contested, but there was very little excitement.

November 5.—The Right Hon. Digby, seventh Lord Middleton, died at Wollaton Hall, Notts., at the advanced age of 87 years. The deceased peer in early life served in the Royal navy, and was First Lieutenant on board the *Culloden* in our gallant Nottinghamshire Admiral Lord Howe's celebrated action off Ushant, June 1st, 1794, when twenty-nine French ships of the line encountered Earl Howe's English fleet of twenty-four ships. The fight lasted seven hours, in the course of which ten of the largest of the French ships were dismasted, and seven captured. One of these having sunk, Earl Howe had the glory of towing six ships of the line at once into Portsmouth.

November 9.—Mr. J. Bradley appointed Mayor; Mr. C. Felkin, Sheriff; and Mr. W. Felkin elected Alderman in the place of Mr. John Wells, resigned.

November 14.—Mr. Mundella elected for Park Ward, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the elevation of Mr. Felkin to the aldermanic bench.

November 21.—A most destructive fire occurred at the Colwick Park farm, in the occupation of Mr. Baker, by which seven stacks

were burnt. The damage was estimated at £700. The fire was doubtless the work of an incendiary, and a man named Bunny was committed to the assizes and was then acquitted. 1856

December 4.—The H battery of the Royal Artillery arrived at Nottingham Barracks (the lease having been renewed) consisting of 174 men, 102 horses, two 24-pr. and four 9-pr. guns, with baggage waggons, &c., under the command of Captain Leslie. The battery had been through the whole of the Crimean campaign, and had only lost two men from the fire of the enemy. On the 18th of the same month, the officers and men to the number of 139 were entertained at the Exchange Hall, under the presidency of Mr. Alderman Birkin.

December 5.—Mr. John Barber elected for Sherwood Ward, without opposition, in the room of Mr. John Gadd, deceased.

1857.

January 20.—John Henry Manners, 5th Duke and 14th Earl of Rutland, died at Belvoir Castle, in the 79th year of his age. He succeeded to the title and estates of his father when he was under ten years of age; consequently he had held the dukedom for 70 years. His remains were interred on the 29th. 1857

February 18.—About half-past nine o'clock in the morning the inhabitants of Wollaton-street and Talbot-street were much alarmed by seeing smoke and flames suddenly burst from the windows of the factory of Mr. Berrey, Wollaton-street. The alarm soon spread, and in a very short time the fire engines arrived and were playing upon the burning pile, but with little effect, as in less than one hour from the fire breaking out nothing remained of the upper portion of that noble building excepting the bare walls. The fire was caused by one of the men accidentally setting fire to some jacquard cards, hanging at the back of his machine, which being very dry soon communicated with the building. This was at that time considered the model factory of the town, and was generally believed to be fire-proof. The damage, including machinery, lace, silk, &c., amounted to about £35,000.

March 27.—General election. The candidates were J. Walter, Esq., and C. Paget, Esq., the former members, and Ernest Jones, Esq. This was very quiet in comparison with some former elections; and at the Sheriff's declaration of the poll the numbers were, Paget, 2393; Walter, 1836; Jones, 614.

April 17.—Joseph Simpson, a very respectable man advanced in years, a collector for a commercial house, was returning through Upper Talbot-street at nearly noon, with a large sum of money in his possession, when he was attacked by two men, who were doubtless aware that he had been for a many years in the habit of returning home through this street every Friday, after collecting

1857

money for goods sold by his employers. One of them struck him a heavy blow from behind with a life preserver, the other being ready to seize the money; but Mr. Simpson by an effort recovered himself, and raised a cry of "murder." Their plan having failed, the ruffians made off, followed by Mr. Simpson. One was immediately caught in an adjoining street, the other was taken shortly afterwards. The men, who were named John Mew and Isaac James, were committed to the assizes, when Mew, being an old offender, was sentenced to fifteen years penal servitude, and James to three years.

April 23.—Two Russian guns presented to Nottingham by the Secretary of War, Lord Panmure: they arrived in Nottingham on May 7th. The length of the bore is 7 feet 8 inches, and the width $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and the guns bear the royal mark of the two-headed eagle.

May 5.—Death of Mr. R. Ibbison, of Postern-street. He bequeathed to the General Hospital £500, to the Lunatic Asylum £500, and to the Midland Institution for the Blind £100.

May 28.—At a special meeting of the Town Council the report of the Inclosure Committee was read, of which the following is an abstract:—"That they had taken counsel's opinion with respect to the legality of charging for admission to the Arboretum, and had received answer that the public (being inhabitants of the town of Nottingham) are entitled to the free use of the Arboretum without charge, whenever it is open to the public at all; and that no inhabitant can legally be refused admission on the ground of his refusal to pay any charge for it." Mr. Patchitt, chairman of the committee, remarked that the whole of the money laid out on it was £6,554 7s. 10d., and it having been stated that the Arboretum had cost the town £26,000 he wished that wrong impression to be removed. The following is an account of the receipts and expenses from May 1st, 1856, to April, 30th, 1857:—Receipts from last year's anniversary, £594 11s. 1d.; season tickets, £434 5s.; fête days, £39 8s. 9d.; schools and parties, £8 15s. 8d.; casual admission, £7 10s. 3d.; rental, £50; sale of grass, £3 10s. 8d.: total, £1138 1s. 5d. Expenses of last year's anniversary, £213 6s. 5d.; expenses of fête days, £141 7s. 6d.; music, £31 5s. 6d.; printing, £11 10s.; wages, water, &c., £452 16s. 1d.; Total, £850 5s. 6d.

June 22, 23, & 24.—Cricket Match at Nottingham, between eleven of Nottingham and sixteen of Sheffield. The Nottingham players were Brampton, Chatterton, R. C. Tinley, G. Parr, A. Clark, Grundy, C. Brown, Bickley, J. Jackson, H. Parr, and Mr. Earle, who scored 155 and 67. The Sheffield sixteen scored 92 and 121, thus losing by 9 runs.

July 14.—Foundation stone of St. Matthew's Schools laid by Lady Middleton. The cost of the building was estimated at £1200.

July 22.—Henry Mayo, killed on the Nottingham Forest by a blow from William Brooks, with whom he had quarrelled.

Brooks at the next March Assizes was sentenced to six months 1857
hard labour.

July 27.—The bathing station on the bank of the Trent opened.

August 3.—£100 voted by the Council for preservation of St. Ann's well.

August 11.—Died at Brighton, aged 67 years, Dr. Marshall Hall, who was born at Basford in 1790, and educated in the medical profession at Nottingham and Newark. He matriculated in the Edinburgh University in the year 1809, and in 1812 took his degree as M.D., and was shortly afterwards appointed to the post of house-physician at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh. In 1814, Dr. Marshall Hall left Edinburgh, and being determined to see some continental schools prior to commencing private practice he visited Paris, Berlin, Gottenburg, &c. The journey was made partly on foot and unarmed. In 1815, he settled in Nottingham as a physician, where he remained about ten years; after which he removed to London. He visited the United States, Canada, and Cuba in 1853-4, when his aimable, simple, and unaffected manners delighted his transatlantic brethren, who spoke of his "accessibility and affability" in the warmest terms. For particulars of Dr. Hall's discoveries we must refer our readers to his memoirs by his widow, published by R. Bentley, New Burlington-street, a copy of which may be seen at the Free Library. His remains were removed to Nottingham, and interred in the General Cemetery, on the 19th, where a handsome monument in granite has been erected to his memory.

August 13.—Nottingham and its suburbs was visited by a terrific thunder storm. The lightning was unusually frequent and vivid, and the thunder, which followed on the instant, was appallingly loud, while the rain poured down for nearly an hour with almost tropical intensity. The immense body of water from Sheep-lane, Chapel-bar, and other inlets of the Market-place, rushed down Wheeler-gate in such a volume as to completely fill the street from wall to wall, rising to the axletrees of the carts. In Albert-street the torrent was so impetuous that for a short distance it literally overpowered a horse attached to a cart, and carried them down the street. As a natural consequence in many parts of the town cellars were filled with water, and in some cases recourse was had to the fire engine to remove it. E. J. Lowe, Esq., stated that the depth of rain on the 13th was over three inches.

August 16.—The terrific thunder storm with which not only Nottingham, but all parts of the country had been visited, caused a sudden rise of the Trent, and a serious flood was the consequence. It was at its height at the above date, when it was about three feet below the mark of 1852. Amongst other damage done the bathing shed on the Trent bank was washed away.

September 18.—The body of a boy, about eight years of age, named John Wesley Atkinson, found in a field near the Forest.

- 1857 He had evidently been strangled, and his boots taken off. The inquest was adjourned until October 12th, when no clue being obtained of the murderer a verdict of wilful murder against some person or persons unknown was returned.

September 24.—Pillar letter boxes first erected in Nottingham.

October 2.—Great Northern station, Eastcroft, opened. Mr. T. C. Hine, architect.

October 30.—Foundation stone of the Lunatic Hospital laid by the Duke of Newcastle, Lord-Lieutenant of the county. The building is from the design of Mr. T. C. Hine. It has a frontage of 270 feet, and will accommodate 30 male and 30 female patients. The grounds are 17 acres in extent. The coins, which ranged from one farthing to 5s., were stolen from the foundation a week after the laying of the stone.

November 2.—(Monday).—The Municipal elections. There was no opposition, and the following were elected:—*St. Ann's Ward*, W. Sylvester and H. Mallet; *Byron*, J. Edwards and J. Sweet; *Castle*, W. Parsons and J. Brown; *Exchange*, W. Greaves and G. Starkey; *St. Mary's*, T. Adams and S. Turner; *Park*, L. Hardy and W. Wright; *Sherwood*, T. Ball and J. Barber.

November 9.—Mr. L. Heymann appointed Mayor; Mr. W. Bradbury, Sheriff.

November 17.—Serious riot, during which many shops were plundered and many windows broken.

December 1.—The Sherwood Foresters left Newark, where they had been quartered since they were embodied on the 1st of October previous, for the camp at Aldershot.

December 26.—Shortly before midnight a terrific fire broke out in the shop of Mr. Crocker, High-street, which gutted the premises and injured the adjoining ones. A piquet of Artillery from the Barracks, with their engine, were early at the fire, and did much towards staying the conflagration. The damage was estimated at from £1,200 to £1,400.

December.—During the latter part of the year there was a great depression in the staple trades of the town, causing many females to be thrown out of employment. A committee being formed and subscriptions raised, the Mayor kindly granted the use of the Exchange as a work room for the unemployed, and there were sometimes close upon 400 engaged. The articles made were sold in the room.

1858.

- 1858 *January 22.*—Fire at the warehouse of Mr. Short, hosier, Castle-gate, causing damage to the amount of £700.

January 25.—In honour of the marriage of the Princess Royal, the Mayor, L. Heymann, Esq., at his own expense, distributed

bread and soup to more than 2,000 poor persons, and the Corporation attended by the Artillery and Pensioners went in procession to the Park, where a Royal salute was fired in the presence of about 60,000 persons. 1858

February 5.—The commencement of the year was a season of great commercial depression and deep distress amongst the working classes. At the date above named there were 804 inmates in the union workhouse, and 5,191 persons were receiving out-door relief.

March 17.—Mr. Arnold Goodliffe elected for Exchange Ward in the place of the late Mr. Kirke Swann, who died March 8th, in the 74th year of his age. He was the senior surviving member of the old Corporation, the senior member of the present Town Council, churchwarden of St. Matthew's, and secretary of several religious and benevolent institutions. He was respected by all who knew him for continual active usefulness, kindness, and Christian principle.

March 28.—The stables at the Arboretum destroyed by fire, when three horses were burnt to death. It was caused by a cabman leaving a lighted candle stuck upon a piece of wood, which it is supposed fell amongst the straw.

April 22.—A grand complimentary dinner at the George hotel, on the occasion of it being re-opened after very considerable alterations and additions.

May 3.—At a meeting of the Council a vote of thanks was passed to the officers and men comprising the H battery of Artillery, for their general good conduct during the time they had been quartered in Nottingham, and their ready and active attendance at several fires that had occurred in the town.

May 24.—Nottingham postmen first appeared in uniform.

June 7.—Mr. Smith Fowler elected Alderman in the room of the late Mr. Jonathan Burton, who died suddenly at Sutton Bonnington, on the 30th of May, aged 60 years. Interred June 3rd in the General Cemetery.

June 11.—Nottingham and neighbourhood was visited by a tremendous thunder storm, which caused serious damage in the town and suburbs.

June 14.—At a special meeting of the Town Council a memorial numerously signed praying for an Arboretum anniversary was discussed, and a motion passed that as the law now stands an anniversary cannot be held; but to meet the wishes of the people an application should be made to Parliament to obtain that power.

June 16.—The thermometer 92 degrees 2 minutes in the shade, a greater degree of heat than had been registered in June, at Highfield House, with the exception of June, 8th, 1844.

June 16.—Inspection of the Sherwood Foresters, or Nottinghamshire Militia, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, by Lieut.-General Sir Harry Smith, who spoke in the highest terms of them. He in

1858 fact said that he never saw a finer body of men. The *Newcastle Chronicle* of this date gives the following pleasing account of the regiment :—"The report of the gallant general who inspected the Sherwood Foresters will be fully borne out by the opinion entertained by the inhabitants of Newcastle as to their orderly behaviour, as well as their soldierlike, manly, and forbearing manner during the unhappy affair at Black Hill."

June 18.—Smith's match manufactory burnt down. It was situate at the back of where Weldon's buildings now stand, on Derby-road.

June 21.—Agreed, by a large majority, at the Council meeting, that the resolution of October 13th, 1856, that the spring races be done away with, shall be carried out.

June 24, 25, & 26.—Cricket match at Kennington Oval, between Surrey and Nottingham. Our eleven were Mr. Mc.Dougall, Mr. C. Batchelor, Diver, Grundy, Daft, C. Brown, Jackson, Davis, A. Clark, Parr, and Gibson, who scored 114 and 194. The Surrey men scored 200 and 109, with the loss of one wicket.

July 14.—A fire occurred at the back of the premises of Mr. Streetly, hatter, Carlton-street, adjoining the George hotel, through the overheating of a flue. Damage, about £100.

July 21.—Foundation stone of the Scotch Baptist chapel, Circus-street, laid by John Heard, Esq. The chapel measures, inside, 78 feet 9 inches, by 52 feet 6 inches, and will seat 650 persons. Mr. Booker, architect.

August 30, 31, & Sept. 1.—Grand cricket match at the Trent-bridge ground, between the United Eleven of England and Mr. Mc.Dougall's twenty-two (a local team). The twenty-two scored 79 and 71, and the United Eleven scored 87 and 64, with the loss of six wickets.

September 9.—Died at his Welsh residence on the banks of the Menai, Thomas Assheton Smith, Esq., who contested the borough of Nottingham in June, 1818, and again in March, 1820. These contests are said to have cost him more than £14,000.

September 14.—A fire occurred in the warehouse of Mr. Wood, Plumpton-street, during the dinner hour. It was soon extinguished, but the damage amounted to £310.

September 15.—A cow walked into the kitchen of the Wheat Sheaf inn, and fell through into the cellar, about 40 feet. It sustained very little injury.

September 20, 21, & 22.—Cricket match at the Stockton ground, between eleven of Durham and Yorkshire and eleven of Nottinghamshire. The representatives of the Northern counties scored 118 and 96, and the Notts. team 140 and 51, with the loss of three wickets. It is not stated why the match was not concluded.

October 10.—A comet of great magnitude, discovered by a Frenchman named Donati in June, and which had for several weeks been a most conspicuous object in the west, was at its

nearest point to the earth. On the night of the 5th, the star Arcturus was seen shining through the comet's tail, which was computed to be from 15,000,000 to 16,000,000 miles long. Hind, the astronomer, computed its distance from the earth to be 51,000,000 miles, and stated that it would not make its appearance again for some hundreds of years. 1858

October 28.—A man named John Robert Richardson committed suicide by dropping into a well 18 inches by 14 inches wide at the top, in a garden where he resided. He was found in an half sitting posture in about 2 feet 9 inches of water.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. *St. Ann's Ward*, W. Knight and A. Cann; *Byron*, J. Sweet and W. Bradbury; *Castle*, T. Flamson and J. Brewster; *Exchange*, T. North and A. Goodliffe; *St. Mary's*, E. Hart and J. Bradshaw; *Park*, J. Bradley and A. J. Mundella; *Sherwood*, P. Bentley and E. P. Cox.

November 8.—Two boys named John Earley and Benjamin Stones killed by the fall of three arches, which had been just finished, near the top of Wollaton-street.

November 9.—Mr. Edwin Patchitt appointed Mayor; Mr. J. Manning, Sheriff. The Mayor stated that the Arboretum committee had come to the decision not to apply to Parliament for power to charge for admission to the Arboretum.

November 15.—Foundation stone of St. Nicholas's parochial schools laid by the Hon. J. E. Denison, Speaker of the House of Commons. The estimated cost was £1,358.

December 2.—The "old smock mill," the last of the long line of mills that formerly stood along the brow of the hill on the Forest, burnt down. It was a brick erection, and was situate on the south of Forest-road near to Alfreton-road.

December 18.—A remarkable storm of thunder, lightning, and heavy rain broke over Nottingham and neighbourhood.

1859.

February 1.—One of the greatest and most alarming fires 1859 that had occurred in Nottingham for many years took place in the hosiery factory of Messrs. Hine & Mundella (now the Nottingham Manufacturing Company). The fire was first perceived by the watchman on duty a few minutes after the hands had left work. He immediately gave an alarm, and in less than a quarter of an hour the fire brigade arrived with the hose cart. Some windows being broken, the hose was introduced; and after a few minutes vigorous play all became dark, and it was thought that the fire was mastered; when suddenly the accumulated gasses inside the room ignited, and in an instant the whole flat was one mass of flame. The destruction of the factory or working portion of the establishment, extending from Parkinson-street to Station-street,

1859 was complete, nothing being left standing but the bare walls ; and in the warehouse portion facing Station-street much stock was damaged by water and removal. By this extensive conflagration from 300 to 400 persons were thrown out of employment.

February 21.—A serious explosion of gas occurred in the shop of Mr. Godber, Peck-lane, by which the windows were blown out, and Mr. Godber and two other persons injured.

February 23.—Died at his seat, Woodhall Park, near Ware, aged 71 years, Abel Smith, Esq. He was the eldest son of the late S. Smith, Esq., founder of Smith's bank, and brother of the first Lord Carington.

March 11.—At the Spring Assizes Thomas Brown Birkitt was convicted of the wilful murder of a gamekeeper named Wm. Watnough, at Barnby-in-the-Willows, on the 18th of November, 1858. His sentence was afterwards commuted to penal servitude for life.

March 31.—Disembodiment of the Sherwood Foresters. This fine regiment, consisting of upwards of 800 men, returned to Newark from Glasgow and Ayr, on Thursday, the 24th, and were to-day disembodied. Much dissatisfaction was expressed by the press of the country at the disbandment of this fine regiment, they having gained the first regimental prize in the last year's shooting, the 2nd battalion Scots Fusilier Guards being second, and the 1st battalion Rifle Brigade third. The *Glasgow Gazette* says, "This fine well-behaved regiment, which has been in Glasgow for many months, returned to their native county last Wednesday, where we hear they are to be disbanded. We are astonished that such an excellent, well-equipped, and efficient regiment in every respect should be disbanded at this time, since it is acknowledged that of all regiments in existence the Sherwood Foresters bear off the palm for precise practice in rifle firing. Wherever they go we wish every success to the Sherwood Foresters—the very name has a charm."

April 3.—Fall of the tower of Old Basford church, which had stood for about 600 years.

April 29.—In consequence of the Conservative Government being defeated on the question of reform, a dissolution of Parliament took place ; and at the borough election on the above date the following were the candidates and the number of votes they each received:—Paget, 2,416 ; Mellor, 2,151 ; Bromley, 1,808 ; Ernest Jones, 154.

May 6.—A serious fire occurred in the trimming shop of Mr. Crofts, Warser-gate ; the damage was estimated at about £400.

May 22.—Serious fire at the lace manufactory of Messrs. Sheppard & Co., Hounds-gate : damages estimated at £600 or £700.

May 30.—"Robin Hood Rifles. First drill commenced here at six a.m., Monday, May 30th, 1859." Such is the inscription appearing on a stone which is inserted into the pavement on the

1859

Castle-terrace, near the entrance to Mortimer's Hole. The first drill would form a highly suggestive subject for the pencil of the artist, and of the few then present none could have predicted for the movement so humbly inaugurated the brilliant career that really awaited it. During the preceding month, the then Duke of Newcastle, Lord-Lieutenant of the county, convened a meeting of the most influential gentlemen for consideration of the rapidly extending system of Volunteer service, with the object of its introduction into Nottingham. The project, it may be said, did not at the first excite any very excessive amount of enthusiasm; and, indeed, was in many quarters received with some degree of disfavour. One gentleman, however, was so impressed by its desirability, that he forthwith issued a number of handbills and circulars, inviting adherence to a company of Nottingham Volunteers. That gentleman was the then Mayor, Mr. Edwin Patchitt. The response was of a most disheartening character, only six names being sent in; the "illustrious six" being Mr. A. J. Mundella (now M.P. for Sheffield), Mr. J. G. Simpkins, Mr. Evans, Mr. Perry, Mr. George Hine, and Mr. Johnson. In spite of a great deal of opposition, the humble few held together, and a decidedly practical step was taken in the engagement of Sergeant-Major Jonathan White—who, by-the-by, is in every respect a townsman, as he was born at Radford; and although that officer, then engaged in peaceful civil pursuits in the town, at first hesitated to accept the overture made to him, he ultimately threw his whole energy into the movement in its precarious infancy. It would have been impossible to secure a better man. As early as his nineteenth year he was raised to the rank of sergeant, and he had seen brilliant service in India, where his personal character and soldierly zeal and gallantry had extorted the most splendid encomiums. He was present at and engaged in the capture by storm of the fortress of Ghuznee, on the 23rd July, 1839, and of Khelat on the 13th November, 1839, on both of these occasions his gallantry being most conspicuous. Permission having been readily granted by the Duke of Newcastle's agent, Mr. Hine, for military exercises within the Castle grounds, the first squad was drilled on the terrace overlooking Lenton.

The movement was now fairly afloat, and on the occasion of the first field-day, which took place on the 25th August, 1859, in front of the residence of the Mayor, there was a muster of no less than four hundred men. The companies, six in number, were officered by the following gentlemen:—Mr. A. J. Mundella, Mr. T. R. Starey, Mr. F. Parsons, Mr. Robert Evans, Mr. R. Birkin, Mr. T. Ball, Mr. R. Patterson, Mr. John Watson, and Mr. Samuel Wright; and at the inspection referred to, which was held by the Duke of Newcastle, so great was the interest excited amongst the outside public that no less than 5,000 persons were admitted by ticket to witness the manœuvres.

There was no mistake about the reality of the volunteer

1859 movement in Nottingham now, and the corps, which that very day received from the Mayoress the name of the Robin Hood Rifles, was recognised as an undoubted and splendid fact. A shooting range was shortly afterwards opened at Mapperley, the subsequent success of the movement being placed beyond question. As early as January, 1860, the Robin Hoods received the title of the "crack corps of England," this compliment being paid to them by a London newspaper.

June 2.—New Baptist chapel opened in Circus-street by the congregation lately meeting in Park-street, when two sermons were preached by Dr. Acworth, of Bradford.

July 14, 15, & 16.—Cricket match at Kennington Oval, between eleven of Surrey and eleven of Nottinghamshire, comprising Grundy, R. Daft, Brampton, J. Chatterton, G. Parr, R. C. Tinley, A. Clark, J. Jackson, Davis, Hogg, and Bickley, who scored 329 in the first innings (G. Parr contributing 130 and R. Daft 52), and 58 in the second innings for two wickets. Surrey scored 213 and 172, losing by 8 wickets.

July 21.—Nottingham Eye Dispensary opened.

August 8.—A grand fête held in Basford Park in aid of the funds for re-building Basford church tower. Mr. Coxwell made an ascent in his balloon the "Queen."

August 27.—Messrs. Harris & Daubney's saw mill, Leen-side, destroyed by fire: damage, £700 or £800.

September 12 & 13.—Cricket match at the Trent-bridge ground, for the benefit of the veteran Thomas Heath, between eleven of the town and county and twenty-two of the county. It was not played out, and when time was called the twenty-two had scored 146 and 170, and the eleven 37 and 27 for five wickets.

September 19.—St. Nicholas's new schools opened in the presence of the Bishop of Lincoln.

September 20.—Death of Colonel Wildman, of Newstead Abbey, aged 72 years.

October 6.—Mr. M. O. Tarbotton appointed borough engineer. He has since been appointed engineer to the Gas Committee.

October 19.—Town Mission Ragged Schools, Robin Hood-street, opened.

October 19.—Died at his residence, Long-row, Edwin George Pickering (E.G.P.), well known from his connection with the *Nottingham Guardian* and several other local works to which he had contributed.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. Six out of the seven wards were contested. The following are the names and number of votes of each candidate:—*St. Ann's*, R. Annibal 514, W. Skinner 511, J. Howitt 375, W. Wright 375; *Byron*, J. Hardy 431, T. Dickinson 431, M. I. Preston 91; *Castle*, B. Hawkridge 360, J. Bowley 326, J. Watson 108; *Exchange*, C. Beck 399, W. Taylor 326, W. R. Brewill 224, F. G. Sharp 222; *St. Mary's*, E. Patchitt 334, W. Shelton 301, H. Hicking 91; *Park*, J. L.

Thackeray and W. Chapman; *Sherwood*, W. Page 472, T. Simpson 348, and M. Hawkes 199.

November 9.—Mr. E. Patchitt appointed Mayor; Mr. W. G. Ward, Sheriff; and the following Aldermen were re-elected:—Messrs. Vickers, Hart, Fowler, Herbert, Biddle, Judd, and Birkin.

November.—By a deed of gift dated this month Burton's Almshouses, London-road, were conveyed into the hands of trustees for the inhabitants of Nottingham. This charity consists of twenty-three dwellings, for the same number of widows, widowers, or other unmarried persons, male or female, of not less than sixty years of age, being of good character, and of any religious denomination.

November 21.—Mr. Thomas North appointed Alderman in the room of Mr. Hart, who had retired, and on November 29th Mr. Brewill was elected to the vacant seat in the Council.

December 4.—Opening of Trinity free church, Bunkers-hill, by the Bishop of Lincoln. It will seat 500, and the cost was £2,600.

December 19.—The coldest night in December ever recorded at Highfield House Observatory. The thermometer registered during the night 0·3 on grass, 0·7 on snow, and 0·7 on wood.

1860.

January 7.—Died at his residence, the Manor House, Sneinton, 1860 Arthur Morley, Esq., aged 48 years. He was highly respected, and his funeral on the 17th, at Sneinton church, was attended by at least 4,000 persons.

January 14.—A meeting was held at the Exchange Hall to elect the field and staff officers of the Robin Hood Rifles.

February 26, 27, & 28.—Nottingham and the surrounding district was visited by one of the most fearful gales ever experienced, which unroofed houses, uprooted trees, damaged churches and chapels, and did much injury to all kinds of property.

March 1.—Re-opening of St. Leodigarius's church, Basford, after its restoration, when the sermon was preached by the Lord Bishop of Lincoln.

March 4.—The Robin Hood Rifles, to the number of about 500, attended divine service at St. Mary's church in uniform for the first time, when the Rev. Canon Brooks preached an appropriate sermon from the text, "Put on the whole armour of God."

March 9.—At the assizes held this day Herbert and William Slack were charged with the wilful murder of George Clarke, at Lenton, on the 26th of the previous December. From the evidence it appeared that deceased was stabbed with a sword stick

1860 during a quarrel which occurred near the Albion inn, at New Lenton. The jury acquitted William and found Herbert guilty of manslaughter, and he was sentenced to fifteen years penal servitude.

March 19.—Died at his residence, Cavendish-hill, near Nottingham, Samuel Bean, Esq., aged 86 years. The architect of his own fortunes, Mr. Bean was emphatically a self-made man. He was born at Norwich, April 18th, 1774, and was suffered to grow up a wild untutored lad. At an early age he enlisted in the Derbyshire Militia. He afterwards came to Nottingham, and gained a knowledge of business under the late Mr. Nunn, dyer, Hounds-gate. Marrying a lady of means, he commenced on his own account, in partnership with the late Mr. Joseph Armfield. Mr. Bean afterwards entered largely into the silk trade, the firm being for many years known as "Bean & Johnson." Mr. Bean took great interest in the Anti Corn Law League, and subscribed largely to its funds. In local matters he took a warm interest, representing St. Ann's Ward in the Council for some years, and was afterwards elected an Alderman. He was throughout his life a useful, consistent, and honourable citizen. His remains were interred on the 27th, in the family vault in the General Cemetery.

May 14.—St. Michael's recreation ground, Millstone-lane, opened.

May 16.—Lady Noel Byron, relict of the poet, died at her residence, 11, St. George's-terrace, Regent's Park. Her personalty was sworn under £60,000, the greater portion of which, with the estate Oxneyfield, situate at Darlington, in the county of Durham, she left to her grandson, Ralph Gordon Noel King, the son of her daughter and the Earl of Lovelace, who was and had for some considerable time been working at weekly wages as an artizan in the smiths' department of Woolwich Arsenal.

May 18.—Mr. George Levick elected Councillor for Castle Ward in the room of Mr. J. Bowley, deceased. There was a close contest between Mr. Levick (C), who polled 306, and Mr. John Keeley (L), who polled 300 votes.

May 28.—A tremendous gale blew down two houses in course of erection in Addison-street, and caused much damage in Nottingham and neighbourhood.

May 29.—Jubilee of the Nottingham Sunday School Union, when 32 schools, numbering 7,544 scholars, walked in procession from the Great Market-place, up Mansfield-road, through the Arboretum, along Waverley, Clarendon, and Vernon streets, down Derby-road, into the Market-place again, when, after singing a jubilee hymn, each of the children was presented with a neatly bound bible. Inside each cover the name of the scholar was written upon a printed ticket, with the name of the school and the occasion of the gift. The distribution being completed, the children and teachers joined in singing the appropriate hymn commencing "Holy Bible, book divine." Afterwards came the "National Anthem,"

and the children then raising their newly received gifts, gave three hearty cheers. The appearance presented at this moment was interesting and beautiful in the extreme. Nothing had been wanting but sunshine to complete the enchantment of the scene, and the sun here burst forth from behind the clouds which had all day enveloped him, and shone with dazzling brilliancy. The gilt edges of the bibles, as they were waved backwards and forwards by the children, glittered in the sunlight, and at a distance seemed like tiny swords of gold, and with the varied dresses of the children, and the banners flaunting in the breeze, and the sun gilding and beautifying all, formed a *tableau* of the most striking and beautiful description. After the doxology had been sung, the Rev. H. Hunter pronounced the benediction, and each school then marched away. At most of the chapels and schools tea and buns were provided, but many of the children proceeded to the Park and Arboretum, the latter of which was during the evening filled almost to overflowing. The procession was upwards of one hour passing through the Arboretum gates.

May 30.—The 11th Hussars left Nottingham Barracks, which were not afterwards permanently occupied.

June 4.—Several persons injured by the wadding from the rifles of the Robin Hoods while practising in Nottingham Park.

June 4.—The head quarters of the 16th Lancers with band passed through Nottingham *en route* for Aldershot.

June 11 & 13.—Cricket match at Sheffield, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Sheffield and district. The Notts. team scored 69 and 162, the Yorkshire men 68 and 32 for the loss of four wickets. There was no play on the 12th in consequence of rain; the match was therefore drawn.

June 13.—Newstead Abbey offered by public auction. The bidding was languid, and the highest bid was £121,000; the estate was bought in at £180,000, and was afterwards sold by private contract to W. F. Webb, Esq. The property was last sold by auction in 1818.

June 14, 15, & 16.—Cricket match at Kennington Oval, between the following eleven of Notts: J. Grundy, R. Daft, J. Chatterton, G. Parr, C. Brampton, A. Clark, J. Jackson, R. C. Tinley, C. Brown, G. Bickley, and T. Davis, and eleven of Surrey. The Notts. team scored 83 and 105, and the representatives of Surrey 66 and 107, losing by 15 runs. The *Sporting Life* says, "Jackson won the match by his magnificent bowling, he having taken nine out of the ten wickets in Surrey's first innings, and six in the second."

June 23.—Grand review of Volunteers in Hyde Park by the Queen, about 20,000 being present. The Robin Hood Rifles, to the number of 543, took part in the review, and it was acknowledged that they were the best appointed battalion on the ground, and that their marching was perfection. The following letter was afterwards received by Edwin Patchitt, Esq., from Lord

1860 Belper, Lord Lieutenant of the county :—"My dear sir,—I must not lose this opportunity of congratulating you on the success of the review on Saturday, and more especially on that of the Nottingham corps. I have heard the opinion from two or three quarters (quite unconnected with Nottingham) that they were the finest corps on the ground. Yours faithfully, Belper."

July 21.—Destructive fire at the warehouse of Messrs. White Brothers, Warser-gate and St. Mary's-place. The damage amounted to £2,700.

July 26, 27, & 28.—Return cricket match on the Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Surrey. Our team scored 196 and 130; Surrey 109 and 247, winning by 30 runs.

August 1.—John Fenton, aged 37 years, was hung in front of the County Hall, for the murder of Charles Spencer, at Walkeringham, on the 6th of March previous. He was tried before Mr. Justice Weightman, on Friday, July 20th. Fenton was a blacksmith by trade, and also kept a public house at Walkeringham. The number of persons present at the execution was not so large as was expected, no doubt through fear of a repetition of the sad accidents which took place at that of Saville, 16 years before.

September 2.—Grand fête at Basford Park for the benefit of the churches and schools of Basford and Cinder Hill. The Robin Hood Rifle band was engaged, and Mr. Coxwell ascended in his balloon. There were from 15,000 to 16,000 persons present.

September 22.—The Robin Hood Rifles held their first divine service parade on the Castle green.

October 3.—Review and government inspection of the Robin Hood Rifles, on which occasion the regiment was presented with colours and a silver bugle, and Adjutant Jonathan White with a charger and trappings, the whole subscribed for and the colours worked by the ladies of Nottingham. The colours were presented by Lady Belper, the bugle by Mrs. Enfield, and the charger by Mrs. Starey.

October 5.—As some workmen were lowering the ground in Great Freeman-street they turned up a number of warlike, religious, and other implements, which had undoubtedly belonged to the ancient Britons before the Roman invasion. They were secured for the Free Museum.

October 25.—Died at his seat, Throsby Park, Nottinghamshire, Charles Herbert Pierrepont, 2nd Earl Manvers, at the advanced age of 82 years. His remains were interred in the vault at Holme Pierrepont church, on November 2nd. His personalty was sworn under £80,000, and was left to be equally divided between his son and two daughters.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. The following is a list of the candidates and the votes each obtained:—*St. Ann's Ward*, W. Sylvester 526, J. Oldknow 521, J. Lovedeod 469;

Byron, J. J. Edwards 454, G. R. Cowen 460, J. Wood 369, J. Ashwell, senr., 369; *Castle*, W. Parsons and J. Brown; *Exchange*, W. Wright 347, S. Palethorpe 342, J. Comyn 128, W. Greaves 124; *St. Mary's*, T. Adams 349, S. Turner 352, H. Mallet 44, G. Parkin 43; *Park*, W. Wright and L. Hardy; *Sherwood*, T. Ball and J. Barber.

November 5.—A serious fire occurred in the hosiery warehouse of Messrs. Hollins & Son, Hounds-gate. The damage was confined to two rooms on the ground floor, and was estimated at about £1,000.

November 9.—Mr. T. Cullen appointed Mayor; Mr. W. Lambert, Sheriff.

November 25.—Divine service first held in the Theatre, St. Mary's-gate. The service was conducted by Capt. Hutchinson, of the Royal Artillery, son of Dr. Hutchinson, late of Nottingham. He was accompanied on the stage by the Mayor (T. Cullen, Esq.), F. J. Hadden, Esq., and other gentlemen of Nottingham.

November.—At a regimental competition the Notts. Militia or Royal Sherwood Foresters scored more hits, and exhibited better shooting, than any regiment in her Majesty's service, whether of the guards or the line.

1861.

January 3.—This morning great excitement prevailed in York-street and the neighbourhood, caused by the extraordinary conduct of the male and female inmates of the Workhouse; some of the men having threatened to set fire to the building before the day was over. A messenger was despatched to the residence of Mr. Patchitt (the chairman), and Mr. Turner (the vice-chairman), of the board, information being also given to the police. On the arrival of these gentlemen, several of the paupers were ordered to be confined and placed under low dietary, whilst nine were conveyed to the House of Correction, and three women and one man at once discharged from the Union.

January 4.—The nine inmates of the Union were brought before the borough Magistrates upon the charges of riotous conduct and insulting the Master of the Workhouse. The evidence given by Mr. White being corroborated by Mr. Patchitt and Mr. Turner, the whole of the prisoners were convicted; eight of them being committed to the House of Correction for two calendar months with hard labour, and the other for twenty-one days.

January 11.—This evening, the Armstrong company was formally incorporated with the Robin Hood Rifles at the Mechanics' Hall, and the customary oath of allegiance was administered to the members.

1861

January 22.—At the weekly meeting of the Board of Guardians, Mr. Turner, the vice-chairman, stated that in comparison with the relief statistics of the corresponding week of last year, there appeared an increase of 462 in the house and 4,398 persons receiving out-door relief. Taking the worst week during the last panic, which ended on the 9th February, 1858, he found on referring to the books, that at that period there was in the house 774 persons, which added to the numbers which were receiving out-door relief, namely, 5,262, made a total of 6,039. This (Tuesday) morning the numbers in the house were 1,051, and those receiving out-door relief 6,896, in all 7,947, so that the relief of this week was the largest ever known, being an increase over the worst week during the panic of 277 in-door, and 1,631 out-door.

February 2.—Early this morning when some heavy drays were passing over the Midland Railway bridge, London-road, the ground was observed to give way. An examination was made, and it was found that the large iron girders of the central arch had snapped asunder, causing the surface to lower about fourteen inches.

February 18.—Nathaniel Warren, for more than thirty years landlord of the Old Ship tavern, Pelham-street, died rather suddenly. He was a native of Melbourne, Derbyshire. He came to reside at Nottingham when quite a youth, and was for some time tap lad at the Postern Gate, Middle-pavement. During Nat's tenancy the Ship tavern acquired more than a local popularity. Years ago, his little bar parlour was often visited by "poor authors," a fact of which he was very proud. The Ship, the Captain, and his tap are laudably mentioned in *Gideon Giles*, a novel written by Thomas Miller, the Nottingham basket-maker, to whom Nat had shown many acts of kindness. The deceased was a man of literary tastes, and for many years he possessed an extensive library, containing numerous standard works on theology, history, &c.; most of which he disposed of, however, about three years before his death. He was 67 years of age, and had been twice married.

March 7.—The Spring Assizes for the town and county of the town of Nottingham commenced this day, the judges being Lord Chief Justice Cockburn and Mr. Justice Crompton. The calendars comprised the cases of White and Davis, for forgery, and of Shipley, for the same offence. The two former were convicted and sentenced to six and four years penal servitude, and Shipley also convicted was sentenced to three years of the same punishment.

March 12.—At the weekly meeting of the Board of Guardians this day, a report on the state of the Union was read by Mr. Turner (vice-chairman), from which it appeared on comparing the 52 weeks ending March 5th, 1861, with the corresponding period ending March 6th, 1860, there were in the House this time last year 577 paupers; that morning, 837; being 260 more than there

was in the previous year; and in the out-door book the numbers were this time last year 2,562; that morning, 5,095; showing an increase upon the out-door book of 2,533, at an increased expenditure in the present week of £139 13s. 11d. The weekly average number of persons relieved out-door, from March, 1859, to March, 1860, was 2,430, at a cost of £157 5s. 5½d.; and the number in the house during the same period was 525. The weekly average, from March, 1860, to March, 1861, was, out-door, 3,247, at a cost of £226 10s. 6d., and in the house, during the same period, 650, showing a weekly increase of out-door poor of 917, at a cost of £69 5s. 0½d.; and in the house of 125 inmates. The total of the expenditure for the out-door relief during the 52 weeks, ending March, 1860, amounted to £8,178 4s. 1d.; and this year it amounted to £11,779 6s. 11d., showing a total increase for the twelve months upon out-door reliefs alone of £2,601 2s. 9d.

April 6.—The population returns of the census this year, exhibited the subjoined results:—

	Males.		Females.		Total.
<i>St. Ann's</i> ...	9,483	...	10,596	...	20,079
<i>Byron</i> ...	6,620	...	8,053	...	14,673
<i>Castle</i> ...	2,986	...	3,737	...	6,723
<i>Exchange</i> ...	4,192	...	4,772	...	8,964
<i>St. Mary's</i> ...	3,006	...	3,653	...	6,659
<i>Park</i> ...	2,439	...	3,656	...	6,095
<i>Sherwood</i> ...	5,418	...	7,134	...	12,572
<i>Lenton</i> ...	2,676	...	3,002	...	5,678
<i>Radford</i> ...	4,774	...	5,418	...	10,192
<i>Hyson Green</i> ...	1,686	...	1,875	...	3,561
<i>Sneinton</i> ...	5,144	...	5,904	...	11,048

May 21.—The Robin Hood Rifles inspected by His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, on the Forest cricket ground, and a high encomium passed upon the discipline and efficiency of the corps.

June 6, 7, & 8.—Cricket match at Kennington Oval, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Surrey. Our team comprised C. Brampton, J. Chatterton, J. Grundy, R. Daft, J. Jackson, G. Parr, A. Clark, T. Davis, J. Hogg, R. C. Tinley, and G. Wootton, who scored 130 and 138, against 168 and 203, losing by 103 runs.

June 22.—The five days bazaar and fancy fair in aid of the battalion fund of the Robin Hood Rifles was brought to a successful close. The gross receipts during the week exceeded £1,600.

July 2.—The first stone of the church for the district of St. Luke was laid by Thomas Adams, Esq.

July 6.—The members of the Robin Hood Rifle corps mustered at the Exchange Hall, to appoint a gentleman, whose name should be recommended to the Lord Lieutenant of the county for the appointment of Lieut.-Colonel to the regiment. The result was the almost unanimous election of C. I. Wright, Esq. The meeting was presided over by Dr. Ransom.

1861 *July 9.*—At the weekly meeting of the Board of Guardians the board consulted as to the best means of relieving the distress amongst the unemployed operatives. A lengthened discussion ensued, and it was resolved by a majority of fourteen against five, that a special meeting of the Guardians should be held on the following Thursday morning, to consider the cases of all persons who gave their names to the Relieving Officers; and that to every man applying for relief having a wife, or a wife and one or two children, the Workhouse should be offered, but that for every man having a wife and three or more children, work would be provided at the Forest, on a reduced scale of remuneration.

July 10.—The Robin Hood Rifles assembled in the Park to fire a *feu de joie* in celebration of the birthday anniversary of her most gracious Majesty the Queen.

July 21.—The Rev. T. M. Macdonald, Honorary Chaplain of the Robin Hood Rifles, performed Divine service in the open air in the Castle parade grounds. About 600 of the corps mustered on the occasion, under the command of the newly-appointed Lieut.-Colonel C. I. Wright. The fine band of the corps, under the leadership of Mr. Turpin, accompanied the singing with a solemn effect.

July 25, 26, & 27.—The return cricket match was played on the Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Surrey, when the home team was composed of Viscount Stanhope, Mr. W. Bury, Mr. R. B. Earle, R. Daft, J. Grundy, G. Parr, T. Davis, J. Jackson, R. C. Tinley, C. Brown, and G. Wootton. Nottingham scored 134 and 79, Surrey 136 and 79 in their second innings with the loss of two wickets, the visitors again proving themselves victorious.

July 30.—M. Blondin, the American acrobat, went through his daring performance in the Barrack yard, and concluded by carrying a man across the rope on his back.

August 16.—George Smith, of Ilkeston, who was convicted of having taken away the life of his only surviving parent on the 1st of May last, and sentenced to pay the utmost penalty of the law, was publicly executed in front of the Derby County Gaol.

August 26, 27, & 28.—Cricket match at the Trent-bridge ground, between George Parr's eleven and twenty-two of the county, for the benefit of George Butler. The twenty-two scored 96 and 125, and the eleven 87 and 135, with the loss of five wickets.

September 14.—The remains of the late Ben Caunt, of St. Martin's-lane, London, once a formidable antagonist in the prize ring, were conveyed through Nottingham on their way to Hucknall Torkard churchyard, the village being the birthplace of Ben and his wife.

September 30.—The number of deaths during the ten years, 1852—1861, both inclusive, in the Borough of Nottingham was 17,887; of these 5,035 from all causes had died under the age of

one year, and from all causes 8,226 had died before reaching the 1861 age of five years.

October 3.—The Robin Rifle Corps inspected and reviewed by the Duke of Newcastle, and Colonel McMurdo, the government inspector, who both passed a very high eulogium on the corps for its efficiency and martial bearing.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. *St. Ann's Ward*, W. Knight and J. Dobson; *Byron*, W. Lambert and W. Bradbury; *Castle*, J. Keely and T. Flamson; *Exchange*, W. R. Brewill and C. C. Dennett; *St. Mary's*, E. Hart and J. Bradshaw; *Park*, T. Keely and J. W. Bowers; *Sherwood*, E. P. Cox and T. Bentley. The only ward contested was *St. Ann's*.

November 8.—Mr. Willa, late Chief Warder at Birmingham, elected by the borough Magistrates to the office of Governor of the Nottingham House of Correction, in the place of Mr. David Musson Jackson, who had resigned. There were 150 applicants for the appointment.

November 9.—Mr. Alderman Birkin appointed Mayor; Mr. Samuel Butler, Sheriff.

November 11.—Volunteer funeral, with military honours, at the General Cemetery. The deceased, Mr. George Newton, plumber, aged 39 years, was an efficient member of the No. 6 Company, Robin Hood Rifles, and was universally respected by his comrades. His death was occasioned by foul air in a pump-well at the workhouse, into which he had descended on the morning of the 7th inst. The funeral was attended by about 150 of his comrades, with the band of the regiment, led by Mr. Turpin.

November 14.—First visit of Mr. Registrar Waterfield to the debtors' gaol at Nottingham. Under the new bankruptcy regulations he cleared the prison of all the debtors.

November 19.—The Bishop of Oxford preached a sermon in Basford church in aid of the funds for its renovation, and the collection amounted to £221; an additional sum of £105 was subsequently contributed after an elegant luncheon at which the Vicar of Basford presided.

December 4.—A fire broke out in the premises occupied by Mr. Husband, lucifer match maker, Leen-side, and the entire stock-in-trade was destroyed.

December 13.—A fire broke out among the oil and turpentine stores underneath the shop of Mr. Wood, chemist and druggist, Clumber-street. The fire was confined entirely to the cellar, and damage done to the extent of £300, a large quantity of turpentine, oil, and miscellaneous drugs being destroyed.

December 20.—Chinese bell, captured at Canton, presented to Nottingham by the officers of the 59th (2nd Nottinghamshire) Regiment of Foot.

December 23.—Places of business closed in Nottingham on

- 1861 the occasion of the funeral of the Prince Consort, who died at Windsor Castle, December 14th.

December 26.—In consequence of the elevation of Mr. Justice Mellor, the townspeople met in front of the Exchange, where substantial hustings were erected, to nominate another representative. After the usual formalities, Alderman Cullen nominated Lord Lincoln, which was seconded by J. Heard, Esq.; and Dr. Thompson moved the nomination of Sir Robert Jukes Clifton, Bart., who was seconded by Alderman Reckless. The Sheriff declared the show of hands to be in favour of Sir Robert, and Alderman Cullen demanded a poll on behalf of Lord Lincoln, which took place next day.

There was considerable excitement in the town, and the polling places were surrounded by crowds, principally Sir Robert Clifton's supporters. The crowded streets, the dashing cabs, the clamour at the polling booths, and the closed shops, carried the imagination back to old electioneering days. At the close of the poll the numbers were:—Clifton, 2,546; Lincoln, 1,144: majority for Clifton, 1,402.

1862.

- 1862 *January 9.*—Monstre coursing match at Clifton Pasture. After a meet with Lord Stamford's fox hounds, about 200 horsemen and 2,000 pedestrians of all ranks and conditions assembled, and a scene of indescribable confused ensued.

January 10.—A series of most daring and extraordinary burglaries were reported to the police, by which property to a large amount was affected. By the active exertions of the detective police several of the perpetrators were subsequently traced and apprehended.

February 1.—The Poor Law Board decided to annex the extra-parochial districts of Standard-hill, the Park, and the limits of the Castle of Nottingham, to Basford Union, for the purpose of being rated to the relief of the poor.

February 3.—At the quarterly meeting of the Nottingham Town Council a pension of £75 per annum was granted to Mr. David Musson Jackson, by a majority of five.

February 12.—Two hundred of the labourers employed in the formation of the new recreation ground, on Sherwood Forest, struck work. The cause of the strike was dissatisfaction given to the men by the passing of a new minute, at a meeting of the Nottingham Board of Guardians.

February 26.—Completion of the upper portion of the spire of Trinity church, which, having been considered unsafe, had been taken down and rebuilt two feet higher.

March 17.—Mr. Peter Black, for very many years a servant of the Nottingham Board of Guardians, died in the union work-house at the advanced age of 88 years. The deceased was the oldest official connected with the town of Nottingham, having spent upwards of 50 years in the administration of the poor laws as an assistant overseer. He had latterly, however, been unable to discharge the more active duties of his office, and had been in receipt of a small pension from the Board of Guardians, but this was not enough to supply all his wants, and he, therefore, entered the house.

March 21.—Francis Hart, Esq., banker, died.

March 25.—M. and Madame Jenny Lind Goldschmidt's concert, to procure tickets for which much eagerness had been shown, took place before one of the most brilliant audiences that ever assembled within the Mechanics' Hall. In addition to M. and Madame Goldschmidt were Mr. Sims Reeves, Signor Belletti, Mr. Blagrove (violin), and Signor Piatti (violoncello).

March 25.—The demolition of the buildings in Chandlers-lane and Bottle-lane to form Victoria-street commenced.

March 28.—Great flood in Nottingham Meadows. Many of the kitchens of the newly-built houses were several feet deep in water.

April 2.—William Baldock, a printer by trade, committed suicide by throwing himself into the tunnel leading from the Derby-road into the Park. He had been out of work twelve months, which was the cause of his despondency.

May 5.—At the quarterly meeting of the Nottingham Town Council the claim to a superannuation allowance by the Rev. S. M. Lund, Chaplain to the Gaol, was rejected, and it was agreed that a new chaplain be appointed at a salary of £150 a year; and on May 19th, the Rev. E. Rogers, curate of Christ church, New Radford, was appointed.

May 7.—Nottingham and neighbourhood visited by a very severe thunderstorm.

May 20.—At the weekly meeting of the Board of Guardians the chairman stated that on reference to the books he found there had not been so small a number of paupers in the house since October, 1860.

June 6 & 7.—Cricket match at Cambridge, between eleven of Cambridge, who scored 96 and 148, and eleven of Notts, composed of C. Daft, R. Daft, C. Brampton, J. Grundy, A. Clarke, W. Horsley, R. C. Tinley, J. Smith, J. Jackson, S. Biddulph, and G. Wootton, who scored 100 and 145, with the loss of seven wickets. Nottingham won with three wickets to go down.

June 9.—The second fancy fair, bazaar, and flower show of the Robin Hood Rifles commenced in the Castle grounds, and concluded on the 17th instant. At a meeting of the committee, held at the Police Office, the Mayor in the chair, it was resolved: "That the sum of £30 0s. 8d., being the amount realized after

1862 deducting expenses, be forwarded by the Mayor to the central committee in behalf of the national memorial to the late Prince Consort."

June 13 & 14.—Cricket match at Kennington Oval, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Surrey, was drawn after the first innings on account of the weather. Nottingham scored 172, and Surrey 108.

June 16.—About 300 persons principally men, appeared in the Market-place, Nottingham, drawing a large waggon-load of coals. They were colliers on strike, formerly in the employ of Mr. T. North. Many of them seemed to be in state of great distress. Members of the body went round the square soliciting contributions in boxes.

July 3 & 4.—Return cricket match on the Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Cambridge. The home team comprised C. Daft, R. Daft, C. Brampton, J. Grundy, G. Parr, J. Jackson, A. Clarke, R. C. Tinley, S. Biddulph, G. Wootton, and W. Bury, Esq., who scored 231 in their first and only innings, and their opponents 45 and 147, leaving the Nottingham team winners by an innings and 39 runs.

July 15.—Celebration of the Jubilee of the N.A.I.U.O. of Odd Fellows. After parading the principal streets with bands, banners, and regalia, the members proceeded to the Arboretum. Dinner was provided in a field at the back of the Arboretum; but the intending diners had scarcely sat down when a heavy thunderstorm came on, thoroughly wetting the people and spoiling an immense quantity of provisions. The storm passed as rapidly as it had come on, and the after proceedings were of the usual character, speeches being made by the Rev. the Hon. C. J. Willoughby, Acting Grand Master of the Order, Sir R. J. Clifton, Bart., M.P., and others.

July 28, 29, & 30.—Return cricket match at the Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Surrey and eleven of Notts., when the visitors scored 133 and 187, and the home team 224 and 99, with the loss of five wickets.

July 29.—Queen's-walk having been raised above flood level and planted with trees, was completed and turfed as far as Kirke White-street.

August 19.—William Hannay, Esq., one of the Nottingham bench of magistrates, and local managing director of the Midland Railway Co., was drowned in the harbour of St. Creux, Sark, Channel Islands. The deceased and his two sons were going on board the steamer *Queen of the Seas* in a shore boat, when as they came to the side of the steamer the paddles began to revolve, and the boat was capsized. They were all rescued with the exception of Mr. Hannay, who it appears was caught in the paddles, and whirled round several times. He was ultimately found clinging with the tenacity of the death-grasp to one of the paddles. His body was brought to Nottingham, and was buried in the Church

Cemetery on the 26th, in the presence of many gentlemen of influence and position. A handsome monument was erected to his memory. Mr. Hannay was 64 years of age. 1862

September 13.—A body of pioneers added to the effective strength of the Robin Hood Rifles, and made their first appearance, properly equipped, at church parade on the following Sunday.

September 30.—The following is the total number of deaths for the ten years ending September 30th, 1862 :—

October 1, 1852 to September 30, 1853	...	1,846
" 1853	"	1,854
" 1854	"	1,855
" 1855	"	1,625
" 1856	"	1,629
" 1857	"	1,996
" 1858	"	2,401
" 1859	"	1,773
" 1860	"	1,840
" 1861	"	1,698

October 3.—Grand review and inspection of the Robin Hood Rifles on the Forest, by the Duke of Newcastle, Lord Lieutenant of the county, and Colonel Dick, the government inspector. About 20,000 spectators were assembled on the occasion.

October 4.—Old copper coinage to the amount of £3,700 collected and forwarded to the Mint, in exchange for new, by Messrs. Clarke & Tansley of this town; the commission on which amounted to £74.

October 9.—Death of Alfred Thomas Fellows, Esq., of Beeston House, principal in the banking firm of Hart, Fellows, & Co., Bridlesmith-gate, treasurer of the Corporation of Nottingham during a period of 26 years.

October 14.—The new buildings for the holding of the County Courts, St. Peter's-gate, commenced.

October 15.—Death of Miss Ann Burton, of Spaniel-row, aged 82 years, a generous benefactress to the poor, and a munificent supporter of the local charities of Nottingham. The new hospital on London-road was founded and endowed by the deceased lady, who died beloved by all who knew her.

October 28.—The appointment of a chaplain to the Nottingham Union determined upon, and the salary fixed at £150 per annum; and at the meeting of the board on November 11th, the Rév. Mr. Chettle was appointed.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. *St. Ann's Ward*, R. Annibal and W. Skinner; *Byron*, T. Dickinson and J. Hardy; *Castle*, B. Hawkrigge and G. Levick; *Exchange*, C. Beck and R. Oakden; *St. Mary's*, E. Patchitt and G. Shelton; *Park*, J. L. Thackeray and N. Dickinson; *Sherwood*, W. Page and T. Simpson.

1862 *November 9.*—Mr. Alderman Birkin appointed Mayor for the fourth time; Mr. W. Chapman, Sheriff; and the following Aldermen were elected:—Messrs. W. Felkin, L. Heymann, W. Page, J. Reckless, W. Knight, T. Cullen, and J. Bradley.

November 14.—Death of Ichabod Wright, Esq., of Mapperley, for many years senior partner in the old-established bank bearing his name. The venerable gentleman was in his 96th year.

November 18.—Election of Town Councillors for St. Ann's and Sherwood Wards in consequence of the removal of Messrs. W. Knight and W. Page to the Aldermanic bench. For the first mentioned ward Mr. W. Whitehead was chosen; for the second, Mr. S. Butler.

November 27.—The statistics of the Town Gaol showed that the number of prisoners committed (exclusive of those sent to prison, remanded, and discharged without commitment) was in the year ending September 25th, 1852, 396; in the year ending September 25th, 1861, 653; and in the year ending September 25th, 1862, 689.

1863.

1863 *January 27.*—Nottingham Lace Market or Chamber of Commerce opened at the Corn Exchange.

January.—The viaduct conveying the Wilford-road over the Midland Railway opened this month.

February 24.—St. Luke's church, Carlton-road, consecrated by the Bishop of Lincoln. The cost of the building was over £3,000.

March 10.—The rejoicings in Nottingham on the marriage of the Prince of Wales were of the most heartily unanimous description. To say that the town had never presented so animated an appearance would be but faint praise; and we give but a weak echo to the spirit that prevailed when we say that it was one of unalloyed love and loyalty to the monarch and her family. The day was one of thorough English holiday and festivity from the beginning to the end. To attempt to give a detailed account of the proceedings would occupy too much space; they comprised a procession through the principal streets, the formal opening of Victoria-street, a banquet at the Exchange, and fireworks on the Forest, at which from 80,000 to 90,000 persons were present. The illumination of the Exchange and many other buildings was continued until the 14th, when the festivities concluded with a large bonfire, and partial illumination of the Forest with variegated lamps. The bonfire was composed of 50 tons of coal, 40 of wood, and 10 of tar, and continued burning four days. A public subscription was entered into to defray the expenses of the celebration, and the sum of £1,058 4s. 4d. was collected.

March 19.—Mr. Wm. Wright appointed Alderman in the room of Mr. Biddle, deceased, and Mr. W. H. Watts elected Councillor for Park Ward as his successor. 1863

April 21.—Rope and pole drags, life buoys, &c., placed at Wilford-ferry, Trent-bridge, &c.

April 22.—A youth named Henry Wilford, a clerk in the office of Mr. Tarbotton, Borough Engineer, found drowned in the river Leen. He had been employed in surveying operations in the Eastcroft, and it is supposed that he had fallen and been drowned in trying to jump over.

May 1.—First pile of Wilford bridge driven.

May 9.—A lithographic printing establishment in the occupation of Messrs. Kowalewski & Co., situate in Normanton-street, off Carrington-street, destroyed by fire. The top floor was occupied by Mr. Warsop with lace machines, who not being insured was a loser to the extent of £600.

May 14.—The Robin Hood Rifles held their first drill on Bulwell Forest.

May 16.—Part of the Nottingham Shambles opened by cheese and bacon factors.

May 26.—Foundation stone of the Independent Methodist chapel, Great Freeman-street, laid.

May 26.—Fête at Nottingham Castle for the benefit of the rifle fund. It was concluded on Saturday the 30th, with a balloon ascent by Jackson, of Derby. During the week £550 had been taken at the gates.

June 1.—Main subway under Victoria and Queen-streets completed. This subway and that under Lister-gate were the first built out of London.

June 11.—Laying the foundation stone of the Congregational chapel, Castle-gate. This building is entitled to rank amongst the first Nonconformist places of worship. The interior is especially beautiful, and will seat 1,300 persons. The acoustic properties are of the highest character. The organ is a very fine one. Mr. James Hall was the builder of the fabric, and Mr. R. C. Sutton, architect.

June 12 & 13.—Cricket match at the Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Kent. The home team were C. Daft, J. Jackson, J. Grundy, R. Daft, G. Parr, Mr. Howsin, A. Clarke, C. Brampton, R. C. Tinley, S. Biddulph, and G. Wootton, who scored 135 and 256. Kent scored 109 and 41 for the loss of six wickets, when time being called the match was drawn.

June 22, 23, & 24.—Cricket match at Bradford, between the same eleven of Notts., with the exception of G. Smith in the place of C. Brampton, when the representatives of Notts. scored 128 and 88, and eleven of Yorkshire, who scored 144 and 73 for the loss of two wickets.

June 25.—Foundation stone of All Saints' church laid. It

1863 is a fine specimen of the Gothic art, and with the schools and parsonage adjoining, was erected at the cost of W. Windley, Esq., a merchant of Nottingham, who laid the foundation stone. Messrs. Hine & Evans, architects.

June 30.—Three tradesmen of Nottingham, one of them being a member of the Town Council, fined at the borough Police court for having on the 21st June, unlawfully damaged the Chinese bell in the Arboretum.

July 9, 10, & 11.—The return cricket match was played on the Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Yorkshire. The visitors scored 243 and 94, and the Notts. men 162 and 181, winning by six runs. There was very great excitement towards the close, the Yorkshire team being a very strong one.

July 23 & 24.—The return cricket match between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Kent was played at Cranbrook, which ended in a complete victory for the Notts. team. Kent scored 58 and 45, Nottingham first and only innings 280, of which Jackson scored 100.

August 13, 14, & 15.—Cricket match at the Trent-bridge ground, for the benefit of F. Tinley, between eleven of Notts. and fourteen Free Foresters, which ended in a tie. The county eleven scored 115 and 211, and the Free Foresters 114 and 212.

August 24.—Grand fête in Basford Park, for the benefit of the General Hospital, at which Mr. James Chambers, son of the aeronaut of that name lost his life. It appears that Mr. Coxwell was to have made the ascent, but being a heavy man doubted the buoyancy of the gas being sufficient to bear his weight, when Chambers, who was a much lighter man, and had previously made 27 ascents, volunteered the trip, which was made slowly but grandly. The balloon, with the ill-fated Chambers in the car, had not been up five minutes when it entered a dense cloud and was completely hidden from view. After a minute or two the balloon re-appeared beneath the rain cloud fearfully collapsed, the upper surface being pressed down towards the car. It fell with frightful rapidity towards the earth, and every spectator of the scene feared that some dreadful disaster had occurred. During this time a heavy rain shower was falling, forcing all but the most eager spectators to seek shelter. In about twenty minutes a man rode into the park and stated that the balloon had descended in a field at Arnold, and that Chambers was a corpse. After a consultation the committee put a stop to the bands and other amusements, and the company slowly and sadly left the park. Chambers was 36 years of age, and was a teacher in the mat department of the Midland Institution for the Blind, which institution he did not leave until four o'clock that afternoon, so could not have been many minutes on the ground before his offer to pilot the balloon was accepted. He left a widow and five children.

September 13.—Memorial window to the memory of the late Prince Consort opened at the east end of St. Mary's church. It

is a superb work of art, worthy of the town and of the exalted character of the good and virtuous Prince, of whom it will be a monument to succeeding generations of worshippers in the sacred pile it now ornaments. In the upper portion are represented the arms of England quartered with those of Saxa-Coburg, and with Prince Albert's own arms. On the left are the Nottingham arms, and on the right the arms of the diocese of Lincoln. Below the coats of arms are four angels bearing scrolls, representing Prudence, Justice, Fortitude, and Temperance, and figures of the four evangelists, while the lower portion is filled with scenes from the life of the Redeemer. The whole is in reality a most meritorious work of art, and is the production of Messrs. Hardman and Co., of London and Birmingham.

September 17.—Foundation stone of the Unitarian church, Peas Hill-road, laid by Mr. Enfield. It will hold about 400 persons, and cost £900, exclusive of the land. R. C. Sutton, architect.

September 24.—Mr. E. Heard Hurst, and a boy named Bromley, drowned through the upsetting of a boat in the attempt to pass through a centre arch of the Trent-bridge, and Mr. John Hurst nearly lost his life in the endeavour to save that of his brother.

September 28.—Foundation stone of St. Saviour's church, Arkwright-street, laid by the Bishop of Lincoln.

September 28.—Foundation stone of St. Ann's church, St. Ann's Well-road, laid by Earl Manvers.

September 29.—Messrs. Glashier & Coxwell made a scientific balloon ascent from the Gas Works, Wolverhampton, and passed over the Midland counties, being distinctly visible at Derby, Castle Donington, and Nottingham. After a voyage of 4½ hours, they descended about six miles from Sleaford, Lincolnshire. Their height when passing over Nottingham was about 3½ miles.

October 5.—Annual inspection of the Robin Hood Rifles on Bulwell Forest, at which John Hebb Newton lost his life under the following circumstances:—On the return to the train he was running to rejoin his company when his bayonet fell out, and he fell on it, causing a wound in the left breast from six to eight inches deep. He was taken to the General Hospital, where he expired on the 9th. He was buried on the 13th, with military honours, at the Church Cemetery, where a stone has been erected to his memory by the battalion.

October 6.—A slight shock of earthquake was felt early in the morning in Nottingham, and in most parts of the country.

October 18.—Methodist Independent church opened by the Rev. H. Hunter and the Rev. J. R. Little.

October 22.—Grand masonic procession from the Market-place up Mansfield-road and through the Arboretum to Waverley-street, on the occasion of laying the foundation stone of the School of Art by his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, Provincial Grand Master of the Order. He was assisted by the Mayor and Corporation of Nottingham.

1863

October 29.—Mr. John Wyer, late of Milton-street, died bequeathing £1,000 to the Hospital, £500 Dispensary, £500 New Lunatic Asylum, £500 Blind Institution, also £1,000 each to the parishes of St. Mary, St. Peter, and St. Nicholas, the interest to be distributed annually by the incumbent and churchwardens amongst the aged and deserving poor in sums not exceeding £1 each. He was interred in the family vault in St. Mary's churchyard, on November 6th.

November 2.—The Municipal elections. The only ward contested was St. Ann's, and the members returned were, *St. Ann's*, J. Oldknow and D. W. Heath; *Byron*, J. Lambert and G. B. Rothera; *Castle*, W. Parsons and J. Brown; *Exchange*, W. Wright and S. Palethorpe; *St. Mary's*, T. Adams and S. Turner; *Park*, L. Hardy and N. Hurst; *Sherwood*, T. Ball and J. Barber.

November 4.—A large hay shed and some other buildings destroyed by fire in Wheatley's croft, at the south end of Sherwood-street.

November 5.—The workshops, timber-yard, &c., of Mr. Foster, timber merchant, of Beeston, destroyed by fire. The damage was about £2,000.

November 9.—Mr. W. Parsons appointed Mayor; Mr. F. B. Baker, Sheriff.

November 21.—Died in London, Samuel Hall, Esq., formerly of Basford Hall, near Nottingham, brother to the late Marshall Hall, Esq., and the inventor of the process of gassing lace, and many improvements in the process of bleaching, &c.

November 28.—A serious fire occurred in the hosiery warehouse of Mr. G. Johnson, Wheeler-gate.

December 2 & 3.—During two days a fearful gale was experienced in Nottingham, which did immense damage to roofs, chimneys, and buildings of every description in all parts of the town and neighbourhood.

December 9.—Three trees planted on Mansfield-road, being the first of a row from the Bluecoat School to the top of the road.

Completion of an erection in the Arboretum for the Chinese bell, presented by the 59th Regiment. It is in the form of a parallelogram, having in the centre an octagonal pagoda-like structure in which the bell is hung, and at each corner a cannon captured at Sebastopol. The cost of the erection was upwards of £700.

1864.

1864

January.—At the commencement of this year the open stalls in the Market-place were generally lighted with gas, the Gas Co.'s charges being 6d. per light per night for the winter months, and 3d. per night for the summer months.

The main culverts from Arkwright-street, under the London-road, completed at the cost of about £2,000. 1864

January 9.—The Fire Brigade called to fires in Barker-gate, Cromwell-street, and Pelham-street, none of them of a serious nature.

January 21.—A large concourse of people assembled in the Market-place to witness the trial of Shand & Mason's steam fire engine. 1-inch hose projected water 130 feet.

March 2.—Falling in of a circus building for Mr. B. Franconi, by which four persons were injured. It is a most singular circumstance that a similar accident happened prior to that gentleman's visit to Nottingham 14 years before.

March 9.—The Trent having overflowed its banks, the water at this date had reached a greater height than had been attained by any inundation since the memorable one of 1852. The water rose eight feet in forty-eight hours, causing much inconvenience by the flooding of the houses in the lower parts of the Meadows.

May 9.—Opening of a new reservoir, Robin Hood's Chase, capable of holding two and a half million gallons of water. This reservoir was made to prevent any inconvenience which might arise from the cleansing or repairing the one in the same neighbourhood noticed in a former portion of this work, to which it is similar in conformation with the exception that it is three times the size, being 220 feet long by 133 feet, and covers an acre and a half of ground. It was constructed by Messrs. Loverseed & Hine, at the cost of £3,000.

May 11.—Joseph Shaw, last surviving founder of the Nottingham Imperial Order of Odd Fellows, died, aged 76 years. Interred in the General Cemetery, where a monument has been erected to his memory by the fraternity.

May 16.—Foundation stone of the Wesleyan chapel and schools, Arkwright-street, laid by Thomas Oliver, Esq., of Bollington, near Macclesfield. The cost of the building (not including the site) was about £2,500. Mr. T. H. Lomas, architect.

May 28.—Review of 22,000 volunteers in Hyde Park by the Prince of Wales, when the Robin Hoods again bore the palm, as will be seen by the following extracts:—"The 1st Notts. (Robin Hoods) were as near perfection as it was possible to be."—*Daily Telegraph*. "The Commander-in-Chief must be more than mortal, or less than a soldier, if he did not cast a longing eye on those serried files of Lincoln green. So great was the interest excited by their appearance, that the volunteer corps which had just made the circuit of the field and returned to their position cheered them enthusiastically again and again."—*Times*.

June 2.—As a man named William Beals was grinding hot plates for the tops of kitchen ranges, at Goddard's factory, Alfred-street North, the stone, weighing 22 cwt., suddenly broke, the pieces flying in all directions, killing him on the spot, and seriously injuring the furnace tender, named Keetley.

1864

June 2.—E. J. Lowe, Esq., writing to the *Times* says:—“Allow me to record the most severe cold ever recollected here in June, 30° 5' on the 1st, and 31° 1' on the 2nd. The temperature on grass was as low as 23° 3', or 8° 7' of frost.” Many potatoes (which were two feet high) killed to the ground, as well as French and kidney beans.

June 9.—A man named Samuel West lost his life from the foul air in the cellar of the Fisherman's Rest, Mount East-street, and a young woman, the servant, was rescued in a very exhausted state.

June 13 & 14.—Cricket match at the Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts, composed of C. Daft, W. Oscroft, C. Brampton, R. Daft, T. Bignall, J. Grundy, A. Shaw, G. Wootton, S. Biddulph, V. Tinley, and M. M'Intyre, and eleven of Kent. The visitors scored 62 and 124, and the home team 224 in their first innings, winning by an innings and 38 runs.

June 16.—The opening services of the Unitarian church and schools, Peas Hill-road, conducted by the Rev. Brooke Herford and the Rev. J. W. Smith, minister of the church.

June 20.—Laying of the foundation stone of a new chapel and schools, in Alfred-street Central, by Sidney Smith, Esq., of Nottingham, in connection with the Methodist Free Church. It will seat from 600 to 700 persons, and the cost was about £1,500. Mr. T. Simpson, architect.

June 30, & July 1 & 2.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Yorkshire. The home team scored 124 and 138, and the visitors 125 and 236, winning by 99 runs.

July 1.—The business of Messrs. Hine, Mundella, & Co. formed into the Nottingham Manufacturing Co., Limited, with a capital of £200,000, in 10,000 shares of £20 each.

July 4, 5, & 6.—Cricket match at Kennington Oval, between the same eleven of Notts. (with the exception of T. Bignall in the room of G. Parr) as played Yorkshire the previous week, and eleven of Surrey, who won the toss and went in first, scoring 468, of which H. H. Stephenson contributed 119, T. Lockyer not out 108, and T. Humphrey 75. The men from the lace county followed with 283 and 188 leaving Surrey 4 to win, which they obtained without losing a wicket.

July 15.—A fire occurred early this morning, which destroyed what was known as the “Bobbin Mill,” in Hermitage-square, and at one time threatened several dwelling-houses in close proximity to it; but owing to the well directed exertions of the fire brigade they were ultimately saved. The damage was estimated at upwards of £700. The previous mill on this site was totally destroyed by fire on the 20th of May, 1861.

July 18 & 19.—Cricket match at Lord's ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Cambridge. Our team scored 59 and 158, and Cambridge 122 and 113, winning by 18 runs.

July 21, 22, & 23.—The return cricket match between eleven of Kent and eleven of Notts. was played at the Crystal Palace, when Notts. scored 143 and 165, and the men of Kent 124 and 110, losing by 74 runs. 1864

July 28 & 29.—Return cricket match at the Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Surrey. The home team scored 107 and 81, and the visitors 127 and 63, winning by two runs.

August 4, 5, & 6.—Return cricket match between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Yorkshire, who scored 183 and 112, and Notts. 263 and 33 with the loss of three wickets.

August 10.—Execution of Richard Thomas Parker, aged 29 years, in front of the County Hall, Nottingham, for the murder of his mother, Elizabeth Parker, at Fiskerton, on the 16th of May.

September 18.—The place of the Wilford ferry boat supplied by a temporary wooden structure for foot passengers and horses, until the completion of the new iron suspension bridge.

September 26.—St. Saviour's church, Arkwright-street, consecrated by the Bishop of Lincoln. It will accommodate 731 persons on the ground floor, and the cost was £2,975. Mr. R. C. Sutton was the architect.

September 26.—St. Ann's church, St. Ann's Well-road, consecrated by the Bishop of Lincoln. It has 822 sittings, of which 532 are free. It was designed by Mr. R. Clarke, and the estimated cost was £3,100.

October 18.—Opening of the Wesleyan chapel and school-rooms, Arkwright-street, by the Rev. S. D. Waddy, D.D., of London. Mr. Lomas, of Fletcher-gate, was the architect, and Mr. Ellis, of Great Freeman-street, the builder. The cost was about £2,200. The chapel will seat about 750 persons.

October 18.—Death of Henry Pelham Clinton, 5th Duke of Newcastle, at Clumber, aged 53 years. He was interred in the family mausoleum at Markham Clinton, October 27th.

October 30.—Elegant stained glass window presented to St. Matthew's church by Messrs. Lambert.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. *St. Ann's Ward*, J. Dobson and F. B. Baker; *Byron*, W. Lambert and J. Sweet; *Castle*, F. W. Parsons and T. Flamson; *Exchange*, W. R. Brewill and W. Hammersley; *St. Mary's*, J. Bradshaw and J. Wood; *Park*, T. Keely and J. W. Bowers; *Sherwood*, E. P. Cox and R. F. Chatwin.

November 3.—Consecration of All Saints' church by the Bishop of Lincoln, on which occasion the Mayor (W. Parsons, Esq.) and the Corporation of Nottingham attended in their official robes. The entire cost of the church, schools, and parsonage was about £10,000.

November 9.—Mr. W. Page appointed Mayor; Mr. John Place, Sheriff.

1865.

1865 *January 1.*—Incendiary fire at the Manor House farm, Old Sneinton, belonging to Major Davidson.

March 6.—The vane affixed to the spire of All Saints' church. It stands 8 feet 2 inches from the masonry of the spire, and the cock is at the height of 177 feet 9 inches from the ground.

March 14.—Opening services of the United Methodist Free church, Dane-street and Alfred-street Central. It is built in the Italian style, from the designs of Mr. T. Simpson, architect, of Nottingham, and will seat between 600 and 700 persons. The cost of erection was upwards of £1,800. Mr. Holloway, junr., was the contractor.

March 31.—Statement of the total expenditure of the Nottingham Union from 1851 to 1865, under every head, including common charges, cost of lunatics, registration, &c., for the year ending March 31, 1852, £13,760 2s. 6d.; 1853, £13,279 7s. 2d.; 1854, £14,407 4s. 5d.; 1855, £17,836 13s. 11d.; 1856, £20,153 7s. 10d.; 1857, £16,780 19s. 10d.; 1858, £20,900 2s. 7d.; 1859, £19,067 9s. 6d.; 1860, £18,770 15s. 7d.; 1861, £26,151 13s. 10d.; 1862, £30,019 15s. 5d.; 1863, £28,405 3s. 10d.; 1864, £26,497 19s. 9d.; 1865, about £24,000.

March.—Memorial window to the late Duke of Newcastle placed in Basford church, representing the magi adoring the infant Saviour, with the text "Glory to God," &c., and the tracery contains the badges of the late Duke. It is from the design of Messrs. Ballantine & Son, Edinburgh.

April 1.—Mr. Simpson, surgeon dentist, and his niece, drowned at Colwick. He had taken a boat at Whitty's wharf, and gone down the river. It was supposed that a short distance above the weir he had jumped out of the boat, causing it to shoot from the bank, and that in swimming after it both he and the boat had been carried over the weir. Mr. Simpson's body was found on the 4th, that of the young lady on the previous day.

April 1.—Mr. John Green, Chapel-bar, killed by a fall from his horse, while out with Mr. Musters's hounds.

April 2.—New Theatre, Parliament-street, commenced.

April 7.—The old Theatre closed with a crowded house for the benefit of Mrs. Saville, the proprietress.

April 15.—Fire at Mr. Gamble's, cork cutter, Bridlesmith-gate, £400 to £500 damage.

April 17.—The old Theatre Royal opened as the Alhambra concert room, by Mr. R. Middleton.

May 4.—Mr. A. J. Maltby elected a member of the Nottingham Town Council for St. Mary's Ward to supply the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. James Wood.

May 8.—The fine peal of eight bells hung by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, in the tower of All Saints' church first heard.

The total weight of the bells is 78cwt. 2qr. 15lb, the tenor bell weighing 17cwt. 11lb. A full peal was not rung on the bells, as the vibration might have had a damaging effect on the masonry of the newly-built tower, but under the direction of the architect three plain courses of trebles were rung during the day, and it was understood that they were only to be chimed until October, when full peals might with safety be rung.

May 22.—Foundation stone of a building in the Horse Fair close for a Working Men's Industrial Exhibition laid by the Mayor (William Page, Esq.), attended by the Corporation of Nottingham, the heads of the Municipalities of Derby, Leicester, Lincoln, Stamford, Boston, Newark, and Grantham, the Committee of Management, &c. The building was of Gothic style in the form of an elongated octagon, was 200 feet long, 57 feet wide in outside dimensions, and 42 feet high in the centre within the nave, and had a continuous gallery 12 feet wide.

May 25.—The most alarming fire that had happened in Nottingham for several years occurred at the bonnet manufactory of Mr. Marriott, St. Mary's-gate. The premises were gutted and great fears were entertained that the adjoining warehouses would fall a prey to the devouring element. The damage was estimated at £12,000.

May 27.—Partial destruction by fire of Mr. Pownall's, marine stores, Manvers-street, Sneinton. The premises had been completely burnt down on the 5th of the previous November, and had been replaced by a substantial brick building, which was much damaged, but not completely destroyed.

June 1, 2, & 3.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Sussex. Our team comprised W. Oscroft, C. Brampton, T. Bignall, R. Daft, G. Parr, J. Grundy, A. Shaw, G. Wootton, S. Biddulph, J. Jackson, and R. C. Tinley. Sussex scored 84 and 38, Nottingham 208, winning by an innings and 86 runs.

June 19.—The new School of Art, Waverley-street, opened by an exhibition of almost innumerable objects, which included remarkably fine collections of paintings, sculpture, architectural drawings, textile fabrics, lace, ancient and modern pottery, works in metal, also a selection of art treasures from the Royal Museum, South Kensington. The proceedings opened with a conversation, which attracted a numerous company of visitors.

June 26.—Serious election riot. It having been announced that a grand open air demonstration would be held by the supporters of Charles Paget and Samuel Morley, and that the workmen of the latter with their friends were coming from all parts of the county, the excursionists were met at the station about 5.30 p.m. by a crowd of persons, when commenced such a scene of stone throwing as had not occurred in the good old town of Nottingham for many years. Mr. Morley's friends eventually fought their way to a platform in the Great Market-place amid

186) showers of stones, which they held for a time until their opponents made an attack which sent them flying in all directions. A light having been procured, the platform was soon one blazing pile. The rioters then spread themselves throughout the town breaking the windows of obnoxious parties, amongst which we may mention, the *Daily Express* office, Paget & Morley's committee rooms, Wheeler-gate, James Sweet, bookseller, &c. The riot was quelled by about nine o'clock. During the affray many persons, both police and others, were severely but none fatally injured.

June 26, 27, & 28.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Surrey and the same eleven of Notts. (with the exception of J. Hilton and T. Davis who played in the place of C. Brampton and G. Parr). The visitors scored 137 and 81, the home team 94 and 125 for the loss of two wickets.

July 6 & 7.—Cricket match at Bradford, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Yorkshire. The Notts. team were the same as took part in the match against Sussex. Yorks. scored 130 and 73, Notts. 233, winning by an innings and 30 runs.

July 11.—The nomination of candidates for the borough election took place in front of the Exchange. Many thousand persons were present, and the excitement was very great, particularly when Lady Clifton (who had exerted herself to the utmost in canvassing for her husband Sir R. J. Clifton) showed herself at the windows of the committee rooms, South-parade. The polling was carried on on the following day at various polling places in the midst of the greatest excitement until four o'clock, at which time the Market-place was filled with persons of all ages and sexes, anxious to know the result of the election. About half-past five it was announced that Morley and Clifton were the successful candidates, though the numbers were not known until eleven o'clock the following morning, when the Sheriff announced S. Morley, Esq., 2,397; Sir R. J. Clifton, 2,352; C. Paget, Esq., 2,327; A. G. Martin, Esq., 2,242.

July 13, 14, & 15.—Return cricket match at Kennington Oval, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Surrey. Our team scored 157 and 207, Surrey 170 and 195 for the loss of 9 wickets.

July 16.—Death of Anne, wife of William Enfield, Esq., aged 64 years.

July 26.—The two companies of the 83rd Regiment and the troop of the 15th Hussars, specially brought to the town in the expectation of a riot at the election, left Nottingham.

July 27, 28, & 29.—Return cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Yorkshire. The visitors scored 191 and 53, the home team 117 and 182, winning by 55 runs.

August 4.—At an adjourned meeting of the Watch Committee several charges were brought against Mr. Hedington, Chief Constable of Nottingham, respecting the management of the police force during the riots that had preceded the election, and

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also on the day of election. After several witnesses had been examined, Mr. Hedington stated that he should have sent in his resignation of the office of Chief Constable a month since, when he saw the strong feeling against him, had it not been for the advice of one or two gentlemen, who considered that his best course would be to stop and meet them. He afterwards said he was quite certain that a strong feeling still existed against him, and he then handed in his written resignation, which he had brought with him. The resignation was accepted, and a resolution was adopted granting Mr. Hedington three months' salary.

August 8.—Review of the Robin Hood Rifles in Kingston Park, the seat of Lord Belper, when 673 men of all ranks put in an appearance. After going through various evolutions, dinner was provided for the corps, at the expense of the noble lord, who also took the chair on the occasion, supported by Lieut.-Colonel Wright and Major the Hon. H. Strutt.

August 13.—Death of the Ven. George Wilkins, Archdeacon of Nottingham, at the Residence House, Southwell. He was in his 81st year, having been born at Norwich, in May, 1785. He enjoyed a vigorous constitution to the last, and his death was caused solely by the decay of the physical faculties owing to great age. The Bishop of Lincoln and a large number of clergy and gentlemen attended the funeral on the 17th.

August 14, 15, & 16.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and fourteen Free Foresters. Our team comprised W. Osroft, C. Brampton, G. Wootton, J. Jackson, G. Parr, J. Grundy, T. Bignall, S. Biddulph, C. F. Daft, R. C. Tinley, and J. O. Shaw, who scored 76 and 68, the Free Foresters 59 and 141, winning by 56 runs.

August 18 & 19.—Cricket match at Old Trafford, Manchester, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Cambridge. Our team were the same as in the last match, with the exception of G. Paling who played in the place of C. F. Daft. Cambridge scored 86 and 64, Notts. 236, winning by an innings and 86 runs.

August 24 & 25.—Return cricket match at Hove ground, Brighton, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Sussex. In our team A. Shaw and J. Chatterton were the substitutes for G. Wootton and T. Bignall. Sussex scored 118 and 77, Notts. 245, winning by an innings and 50 runs.

September 12.—Opening of the Nottingham Industrial Exhibition in Horse Fair close by Lord Belper, Lord Lieutenant of the county. A procession was formed in front of the Exchange, consisting of the Mayor and Corporation of Nottingham, county and borough Magistrates, High Sheriff, Nobility, M.P.s; Lords Lieutenant, the Duke of St. Albans, Mayors of Midland Counties, &c., and proceeded through Pelham-street, Victoria-street, Poultry, South-parade, Chapel-bar, Derby-road, Vernon-street, and Clarendon street to the building. The streets were thickly lined throughout the entire route, and in many places decorated with flags. Space will

1865 not admit of a detailed account of the exhibition. It consisted of choice specimens of the manufactures of the Midland Counties, comprising lace, hosiery, and the machinery for making each, specimens of machinery and engineering work, ribbon loom at work, a superb collection of water-colour drawings, printing on wood, &c., books and bookbinding, works of the inmates of the Midland Institution for the Blind, rich specimens of bronze, porcelain, glass, and other articles too numerous to mention. The exhibition was kept open some months, and the receipts were about £2,900.

September 25.—Opening of the New Theatre in Parliament-street. The theatre itself, including auditorium and stage, occupies 112 feet by 67 feet wide, and the frontage is 76 feet long. The respective accommodation in each part is, dress circle, 250 persons; upper circle, 250; pit, 850; gallery, 800; private boxes, 50: total, 2,200. The stage is 64 feet wide from wall to wall, and 50 feet in depth from the footlights to the back. The work of excavating for the theatre was commenced on the 27th of the previous March, so that the erection had not occupied more than six months; and the cost, with the purchase of the ground, had been little short of £15,000.

October 2.—At the proclamation of the fair, the procession stopped midway up Sheep-lane, when the Mayor proclaimed the street open, and that it is and shall be called Theatre-street. In consequence of much dissatisfaction the name was afterwards changed to Market-street.

October 17.—Nottingham visited by a tremendous thunder-storm accompanied by heavy rain. The lightning was very vivid, and the thunder was appalling. The rain commenced to fall heavily about half-past three, and continued to pour down with great violence until half-past six o'clock. At five o'clock a remarkably vivid flash of lightning leaped out of a cloud that seemed to overspan the house-tops, and simultaneously there was a crash of thunder, which shook the houses and made the windows rattle as if a whole park of artillery had been discharged.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. The whole of the wards were contested, with the following results:—*St. Ann's*, T. R. Starey 818, Dr. Robertson 817, W. Skinner 332, R. Annibal 327 (they both retired); *Byron*, J. Riste 508, W. Gregory 505, T. Dickinson 474; *Castle*, G. Levick 307, B. Hawkrigge 306, J. S. Gilpin 125, D. C. Royce 124; *Exchange*, H. Hind 388, H. Dunnington 386, T. Beecroft 331, R. B. Bond 329; *St. Mary's*, E. Patchitt 252, J. R. Browne 237, G. Parkin 146, H. Mallet 1; *Park*, J. L. Thackeray 261, N. Dickinson 258, J. Thompson 201; *Sherwood*, S. Butler 686, T. Simpson 538, J. Comyn 492.

November 9.—Mr. Thomas Ball appointed Mayor; Mr. R. B. Bond, Sheriff; and the following Aldermen were elected:—Messrs. R. Birkin, Smith Fowler, T. Herbert, T. North, W. Sylvester, W. Vickers, and W. Knight.

November 14.—At a highly influential public meeting held in the Exchange Hall, Lord Belper in the chair, for the purpose of taking steps for the restoration of St. Mary's church, Nottingham, it was stated that for the complete restoration of the edifice £7,500 would be required; and as the chief beauty of St. Mary's of old was in its windows, it was considered that it was almost necessary to have at least the principal ones of stained glass, as no restoration could be deemed complete without them, for which £5,000 would be required; making with £500 for the restoration and improvement of the organ, a total of £13,000. The following resolution was carried:—"That considering the vast importance, the original beauty, the great capability, and the present condition of St. Mary's church in Nottingham, it is desirable to undertake its restoration, under the direction of George Gilbert Scott, Esq." A committee was formed for carrying out the work, and at the close of the meeting £3,581 15s. 6d. was subscribed.

December 13.—A workshop in the occupation of Mr. Hudson, opposite the Police station, St. John's-street, destroyed by fire.

December 18.—At a meeting of the Town Council it was agreed to purchase the Industrial Exhibition building of the committee that it might remain standing for the use of the British Association, at their meeting in Nottingham, in 1866.

December 23.—Died, after a short illness, Lady Lucy Smith, of Wilford House. Her Ladyship was aunt to the late and great-aunt to the present Earl of Leven and Melville. She was born January 20th, 1794, and in 1824 married Henry Smith, Esq., of Wilford. Lady Lucy was distinguished for her many exemplary virtues, her extensive benevolence, her kindly sympathy, and her personal piety. Her name was the synonym of all that was charitable and "of good report," and her death was lamented by a wide circle of affectionate relatives and friends. Her remains were interred in the family vault in Wilford church.

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January 31.—Regimental prizes presented to the Robin Hood Rifles by Lady Belper. 1866

March 14.—Opening of the Dining Hall, in Byard-lane. It is 87 feet long, 45 feet wide, and 30 feet high. It will seat 350 to dinner.

April 11.—A serious explosion of gas, which was being prepared for scientific optical illusions, occurred in the Mechanics' Hall, which seriously injured a Mr. Johnson, who was preparing it; but beyond smashing the windows no material damage was done to the building.

April 20.—On the 7th of February a petition was presented against the return of Sir R. J. Clifton for Nottingham, and on the

1866 17th of the same month a petition was also presented against the return of Samuel Morley, Esq. The following committee :— Mr. H. E. Adair, Ipswich, (chairman); Sir P. Egerton, South Cheshire; Mr. G. Shaw Lefevre, Reading; Capt. the Hon. J. C. Vivian, Truro; and Mr. S. R. Graves, Liverpool, appointed by the House of Commons to try the issues of both petitions, commenced their sitting on the 20th of March. The council for the petitioners against the return of Sir R. J. Clifton were Mr. Temple, Q.C., Mr. Mundell, and Mr. Cave, and for the sitting members, Mr. Rodwell, Q.C., Mr. Price, Q.C., and Mr. Pope Henessy. Mr. S. Maltby stated that he appeared in respect to the second petition and should be glad to know what course the committee had decided upon, when the chairman said that they should first take the petition against the return of Sir R. J. Clifton, and then afterwards take the other; they would then report both at the same time to the House. The committee sat twenty-seven days, and after hearing the evidence *pro* and *con* they, on April 20th, came to the following decision :—That Sir R. J. Clifton, Bart., is not duly elected a burgess to serve in the present Parliament for the borough of Nottingham; that Samuel Morley, Esq., is not duly elected a burgess to serve in the present Parliament for the borough of Nottingham; that the last election for the said borough is a void election; that it is proved that Sir R. J. Clifton was by himself, and by others on his behalf, guilty of undue influence at the last election; that Samuel Morley, Esq., was guilty of bribery by his agents at the last election; that Charles Paget, Esq., was guilty of bribery by his agents at the last election; that bribery was practised with the knowledge of Sir R. J. Clifton's agent by the corrupt payment of excessive travelling expenses to vote for Sir R. J. Clifton, and that the said bribery was practised without the knowledge or consent of Sir R. J. Clifton; that at the said election excessive numbers of persons were employed in behalf of Messrs. Paget & Morley as messengers, canvassers, and protectors from violence, and that in three wards alone out of seven nearly two hundred voters were so employed and received from their agents sums varying in amount from 15s. to £4 10s.

A short time before this, Mr. Frederick Webster, Mr. Wm. Pare, and others, formed the Independent Society, which was very successful in behalf of Sir Robert. The committee of the society worked night and day for the purpose of defending Sir Robert's seat, and the treasurer (Mr. F. Webster) handed the lawyers for the defence from first to last nearly one thousand pounds.

After this result the members of the Independent Society sought for a candidate, and one was secured in Mr. Ralph Bernal Osborne, who, accompanied by Mr. F. Webster and Samuel Bunting, arrived from London at the Great Northern station, April 27th, in the midst of a tremendous whirl, accompanied by a band of music, and drove into the Great Market-place in an open carriage drawn by four greys. Mr. Osborne having addressed

about twenty thousand people from a waggon, returned to London the same evening. The contest, which was sharp and severe, resulted in his being returned at the head of the poll.

May 9.—Writs for another election having been issued, the nomination of candidates took place on a platform erected in front of the Exchange Rooms, when the following candidates were nominated:—Lord Amberley by Dr. Ransom, Mr. Handel Coss- ham by Mr. John Bradley, Mr. Bernal Osborne by Mr. Cornelius James, Sir Geo. Jenkinson by F. C. Smith, Esq., and Mr. David Faulkner by Mr. W. H. Squire. The show of hands was declared in favour of Sir Geo. Jenkinson and Mr. Bernal Osborne, and the polling took place on the next day with the following result:—Mr. Bernal Osborne, 2518; Lord Amberley, 2494; Sir Geo. Jenkinson, 2411; Mr. Handel Coss- ham, 2307; Mr. David Faulkner, 3.

May 25.—The *Nottingham Review* of this date states, that in the course of excavation going on in Market-street, a section of the old town wall to the extent of five feet in height was exhumed. The old town ditch or moat, which ran round the outside, was also exposed to view. The wall found was about 5 feet 6 inches thick, built of the common Nottingham sand rock, and the blocks appeared to have been rudely bedded in sand and clay. The entire moat was ten yards wide, but the depth was not ascertained, as the excavation for the sewers only reached to thirteen feet. Through all this depth, there was nothing but rubbish and bones, which had been thrown into the ditch to level the ground after its use for defensive purposes had passed away. From the portion exposed it was evident that the wall occupied the line of the present causeway in front of the Three Crowns and the Fox and Owl inns to Chapel-bar, where it joined that celebrated gateway, the ditch occupying the present road for thirty feet in width. It thus appears that the gardens or premises in rear of the property fronting to Chapel-bar and Long-row West went up to the old wall, but that from Sheep-lane to Clumber-street a road, about four feet wide, passed inside the wall. This accounts for the difference in the line of frontage observed between the White Hart inn, formerly at the top of Sheep-lane and the grocer's shop at the opposite corner. From the front of the above inn the wall ran down the middle of Parliament-street to Mr. Sylvester's house, with the road on the inner and the ditch on the outer side. It had been cut through a few months previously opposite the Horse and Groom inn. It was also seen when excavating for some new property in the rear of Mr. Sylvester's house, and there it was learnt that Bunkers-hill marks the site of the old moat; for the same class of bones and rubbish formed the ground, and the same indications were present of different levels of roads.

May 31 & June 1 & 2.—Cricket match at Fenner's ground, between eleven of Cambridge, who scored 138 and 164, and eleven of Notts. comprising W. Oscroft, C. Brampton, G. Wootton, R.

1866 Daft, G. Parr, J. Grundy, A. Shaw, J. Jackson, S. Biddulph, R. C. Tinley, and J. C. Shaw, who scored 270 and 34 for the loss of two wickets.

June 1.—Died, in his 62nd year, George Augustus Frederick, 6th Earl of Chesterfield. His remains were interred in a new vault underneath the chancel of Bretby church, and he was succeeded by his son Lord George Stanhope.

June 3.—John Lawson Thackeray appointed Alderman in the room of the late John Bradley, Esq., who died May 31st, at the residence of his son-in-law, Oak Brook, near Sheffield, in his 65th year. He was highly respected. He was appointed Mayor in 1856, and it was admitted that the dignity and efficiency of the office suffered nothing in his hands.

June 16.—Mr. J. Thompson elected Town Councillor for Park Ward to fill the vacancy caused by the elevation of Mr. J. L. Thackeray to the aldermanic bench.

June 18.—T. B. T. Hildyard, Esq., elected Member of Parliament for South Notts., vacant by the elevation of Lord Stanhope to the Upper House.

June 18, 19, & 20.—Cricket match at Bradford, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Yorkshire. Rain fell the whole of Monday and Tuesday, and on Wednesday the match was abandoned at 3.20 owing to rain again coming on. Notts. scored 103 runs for the loss of six wickets.

June 21, 22, & 23.*—Cricket match at the Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Middlesex. Our team comprised the same players as in the Cambridge match, with the exception of G. Paling in the place of C. Brampton. The visitors scored 221, Notts. 88 and 66. Middlesex won by an innings and 67 runs.

June 23.—Review of 15,000 Volunteers in Hyde Park by H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, Commander-in-Chief, in which the Robin Hoods, to the number of 654, took part, the following extracts will show with what success:—"Colonel Mason's was the most applauded brigade of the day. It was composed of 696 Derbyshire men in scarlet, 773 Birmingham men in grey, 533 Administrative Battalion men of Warwickshire, and 654 Robin Hoods of Nottingham in green, for whom the cheers rang out again and again; and well they might, for their marching was perfection. Their pioneers were admirable, and one or two of them might sit to be painted as models of Vulcan."—*Standard*. "Last but not least in merit came the Robin Hoods, who for drilling or shooting may worthily claim to take post in the foremost ranks of volunteers. . . . In appearance they were second to none on the ground, and their marching was perfection."—*Daily Telegraph*. "The greatest admiration was expressed for the county corps, of which there were five battalions present. The marching of all these regiments was first rate, and the size and stature of the men of which they were composed contrasted most strikingly with those

of the members of some of the Metropolitan corps. Judged by the test of marching there can be no doubt that the Robin Hoods and the 1st Derbyshire signalized themselves as the best drilled battalions on the field, and of these two the Robin Hoods had slightly the advantage."—*Daily News*.

July 3.—Inauguration of the Walter Memorial fountain situated at the junction of Lister-gate and Carrington-street. The erection is of stone, and is about fifty feet high. It is a most beautiful structure and cost £1,000. It was presented to the town by John Walter, Esq., of Bearwood, Berks., one of the *Times* proprietors, and formerly M.P. for Nottingham, as a memorial of his father, who for a short time represented Nottingham in Parliament. There are four granite drinking fountains on the lowest stage, and above are medallion portraits of the late John Walter, Esq., by Phyllers of London. Two marble slabs contain the following inscriptions:—"To the people of Nottingham, in memory of John Walter, Esq., who died July 28th, 1847, this fountain is erected by his son. A.D. 1866." "This memorial fountain, the foundation stone of which was laid October 24th, 1865, in the mayoralty of W. Page, Esq., was inaugurated July 3rd, 1866, by John Walter, Esq., in the mayoralty of T. Ball, Esq. Richard Charles Sutton, architect."

July 5, 6, & 7.—The return cricket match was played on the Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Cambridge. The home team was the same as played in the first Cambridge match, with the exception of W. Shaw in the place of G. Wootton. The visitors scored 217 and 179, Notts. 195 and 99 for the loss of six wickets. The match was drawn.

July 6.—Meeting at St. Mary's vicarage to receive tenders for the restoration of St. Mary's church. Mr. Hall's tender of £11,055 was accepted, and it was agreed to proceed with the works as far as the subscription would go. £4,120 had up to that time been promised.

July 21.—At the borough assizes, Jane Revill, 18 years of age, was convicted of the wilful murder of her infant child on the 16th of April, and sentenced to death. Her sentence was afterwards commuted to penal servitude for life.

August 2, 3, & 4.—The return cricket match on Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Yorkshire. The home team scored 91 and 71 for the loss of one wicket, the visitors 78 and 83. Notts. won by nine wickets.

August 9, 10, & 11.—The return cricket match on Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Middlesex. The home team was the same as in the first match of the season, with the exception of T. Bignall who played in the place of J. Jackson. Notts. scored 174 and 247, Middlesex 172 and 60 for the loss of three wickets. The match was drawn.

August 11.—30,000 volunteers reviewed by the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Cambridge (the Princess of Wales was also

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1866 present) at York, amongst which were the Robin Hoods to the number of about 600. All acquitted themselves well, particularly our townsmen, as the following extracts will show:—"It would be unjust not to mention that even where all were good, the perfect formation and 'get up' of the celebrated Robin Hoods, Nottingham Rifles, elicited a loud burst of applause from all the spectators."—*Times*. "Where all did so well it seems invidious to particularize any, but in common justice to the splendid marching of the Robin Hoods from Nottingham, the only corps applauded from the Grand Stand, they ought not to be passed over without a word of encomium."—*Standard*. "The last to pass the Duke of Cambridge were the celebrated Robin Hoods, who were loudly cheered, their marching being decidedly the best."—*Star*. "In only one case was a corps greeted with applause, and that was the famous Robin Hoods, who may now look upon applause as their natural inheritance."—*Leeds Mercury*.

August 22-28.—Meeting of the British Association at Nottingham, under the presidency of William Grove, Esq., Q.C. The meetings were held in the Exhibition Building, Horse Fair close, the Mechanics' Hall, the Theatre, and the Corn Exchange, and excursions were arranged for the members to Nuthall and Cinder Hill collieries, to Newstead, to Annesley collieries, to the Railway works at Derby, and to other places of interest in the neighbourhood. The members of the association were also entertained by the Mayor (T. Ball, Esq.), at a banquet in the Exchange Hall, when the following gentlemen were some of the company:—R. W. Grove, Esq., Q.C., F.R.C.S., Lord Amberley, M.P., General Sir Sydney Cotton, Sir Frederick Murchison, R. Bernal Osborne, Esq., M.P., Lord E. Clinton, M.P., Admiral Belcher, F. W. Webb, Esq., &c.

August 23.—Grand floral fête in Nottingham Park in honour of the meeting of the British Association. The collection was not only unprecedentedly extensive, but in many respects beautifully unique.

August 28.—Annual inspection of the Robin Hood Rifles by General Sir Sydney Cotton and the inspecting officer, Colonel Wombwell, at Bestwood Park, the grounds of the Duke of St. Albans, honorary Colonel to the regiment, who gave a dinner to the corps on the occasion, when there were present 817 of all ranks.

August 31.—At the close of the meetings of the British Association, the Exhibition Building, containing a large collection of scientific instruments, valuable paintings, photographs, &c., was for a few days opened to the public at a low charge.

October 11.—Destruction by fire of the bonnet front warehouse of Mr. C. G. Hill, Commerce-square. It appears that Mr. Hill kept a large quantity of pigeons at the top of the warehouse, and that after the hands had left work in the evening he and some men went upstairs on some business respecting them. Whilst

there, Mr. Hill was surprised at a loud knocking at the warehouse door, and on going to the head of the stairs found that the lower portion of the premises was in flames, and that exit by the stairs was impossible. Fortunately there was a trap door in the roof, through which they made their escape. The fire leaped upwards with fearful rapidity from floor to floor, and soon enveloped the whole of Mr. Hill's premises in a glowing sheet of flame, which burst with great fury from the windows, lighting up a vast area, and presenting a spectacle of grandeur, particularly when viewed from the southern side of the town, which it overlooks. It was at one time feared that the burning building would fall into Narrow-marsh, and many of the inhabitants removed their goods; but beyond the fall of pieces of burning timber the massive roof of the building remained nearly intact, though the interior was completely burnt out, nothing remaining but the shell. This building is eight stories high on the southern side, the lower four, in Narrow-marsh, being occupied as dwellings; a fire-proof floor being inserted between the houses and the warehouse, which prevented the fire extending to the lower portions of the building, though they and their contents were much damaged by water and removal. It was estimated that Mr. Hill's stock was worth £10,000, he having from 10,000 to 15,000 boxes of bonnet fronts on hand. He was insured for £8,000, and the building, including the warehouses of Messrs. Hamel & Wright and Lottimer & Co., for £9,000. After Mr. Hill's escape from the roof he penetrated into the building and turned off the gas, making his way out through the cellar grate.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. The following were the candidates and the number each polled:—*St. Ann's Ward*, J. Oldknow 960, D. W. Heath 875, L. Torr 312; *Byron*, W. Lambert 439, G. B. Rothera 439, R. Annibal 316, S. Limpenny 310; *Castle*, W. Parsons and J. Brown; *Exchange*, J. B. Taylor 389, W. Wright 387, W. Greaves 179; *St. Mary's*, T. Adams and S. Turner; *Park*, L. Hardy and W. Foster; *Sherwood*, J. Barber 697, J. Howitt 637, J. Comyn 484.

November 9.—Mr. J. L. Thackeray appointed Mayor; Mr. M. I. Preston, Sheriff.

December 3.—Foundation stone of Trent College laid by the Duke of Devonshire. The building is in the Tudor style of architecture, and covers a space of 256 by 200 feet.

December 8.—Regimental prizes presented to the Robin Hood Rifles by Lady Diana Beauclerk.

December 24.—Mr. Christopher Swann died. He had held the office of county Coroner for a period of 37 years.

December 31.—Midnight. 1867 changes rung at All Saints' church by J. Wibberley 1st, W. Metheringham 2nd, B. Metheringham 3rd, T. Lennard 4th, R. Beeson 5th, S. J. Hanson 6th, G. Middleton 7th, C. Bradbury 8th, in one hour and twenty minutes.

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1867 *January 7.*—Launch of the Nottingham Life Boat. At half-past twelve a procession was formed from the Industrial Exhibition Building (where the boat had been on view) consisting of the bands of the South Notts. Yeomanry and the Robin Hood Rifles, a considerable number of the last-named corps in uniform, the Fire Brigade with their engines, the Life Boat on its carriage manned by a crew in Guernseys, sou'-westers, red woollen scarfs, and cork jackets, drawn by six powerful horses belonging to the Local Board of Health, &c. The procession paraded the principal streets to the Great Market-place, where a square was formed with the boat in the centre, when the Mayoress (Mrs. J. L. Thackeray), amidst loud applause, christened it the "Robin Hood." The life-boat was then conveyed to a field a few yards below the boat-horse bridge, which then spanned the river some distance below the Trent-bridge. The carriage of the boat having been run down to the river side, one end of the vessel was slowly raised, and immediately after it slid down into the water, with the crew on board, the Yeomanry band at the same time striking up "Cheer boys, cheer." The crew rowed the boat a short distance down the river and back again, after which a trial was made of its self-righting properties. A chain having been fastened round the side of the boat, a couple of men worked a crane and wound it out of the water. On attaining a certain height it fell over, and came up keel uppermost; but scarcely six seconds had elapsed before it toppled over again, and danced about on the surface like a cork, the water shipped during the process rapidly leaving it. This operation was repeated with the same success. The boat was ultimately conveyed by the Great Northern Railway to its destination, Boulmer, Northumberland. The length of the vessel was 33 feet, the width 8 feet, and the cost, including carriage, stores, &c., £420, of which Mr. T. Gimson subscribed £200. The crew assisting at the launch consisted of Messrs. G. Buxton, J. Chiswell, H. A. Mann, J. H. Whitty, W. J. Martin, J. H. Naylor, W. Hopkin, J. Abbott, G. Abbott, W. Hibbs, and S. P. Knight, coxswain.

January 9.—At this date the meadows and fields in the valley of the Trent were very deeply flooded, and the water entered the kitchens of many houses in the Meadows. The Midland Railway was in some places submerged to the depth of from 12 to 14 inches. This was the greatest flood since the year 1852.

January 14.—One of the most extensive conflagrations which had taken place for years, occurred in the nearly new factory of Messrs. Lee & Gee, hosiers, at the junction of Alfred-street South with Carlton-road. The building wherein the disaster occurred was 180 feet long by 30 feet wide, and three stories

high above the basement. The whole of the valuable machinery used by Messrs. Lee & Gee was contained in this building, and in the space of two hours from the breaking out of the fire not a vestige remained beyond an unsightly heap of ruins coated with lead. The fire was first discovered in a lean-to in the yard, and spread with a most alarming rapidity. After the brigade had reached the scene, it was with great difficulty that the fire plugs were found, owing to a deep snow; and when found, they were ice-bound, so that some time elapsed ere a supply of water was obtained. Meanwhile the fire had spread into the basement, where a wooden shoot communicating with the first story was soon enveloped, and in less than a quarter of an hour the floor was burnt through. Shortly afterwards the machinery began to fall from the upper stories. So rapidly had the conflagration spread that in about an hour and a half from the fire having been discovered, the roof and a portion of the wall fell with such force that the ground itself shook. The damage to the stock, machinery, and building was estimated at £15,000.

Whilst engaged in cooling the ruins a bright glare was observed a short distance off, and on going to the spot it was discovered that a fire was raging in the factory of Messrs. Wilson, hosiers, dyers, &c., just off Carlton-road. The flames were confined to the centre of a building 150 feet long by about 50 feet deep, and the fire probably originated in the entrance by the skylight of sparks from Messrs. Lee & Gee's factory. The smoke from the smouldering cotton was so dense that one of the firemen was compelled to equip himself with the smoke jacket, and wearing this he penetrated to the scene of the conflagration with a hose pipe. By this means it was subdued in the course of three quarters of an hour, but not until a loss of from £1,000 to £2,000 had been caused.

February 4.—Mr. D. W. Heath elected county Coroner.

February 6.—A serious fire occurred in the warehouse of Mr. Riste, situated in Halifax-place, Pilcher-gate. The fire was principally confined to the ground floor, a room 80 feet by 40 feet.

February 13.—The Nottingham Cattle Market, which had been closed for a long period on account of the cattle disease, again opened.

March 14.—The trial of John and Mary Watson, before Mr. Justice. Smith, for the murder of Henry Raynor, at Carlton, on the 17th of November, 1866, created a great sensation. On Lady-day, 1866, Mr. Raynor, who was an accountant at Nottingham, took a house with a garden, two orchards, and some land, at Carlton, and went there to reside, subletting a portion of the house and premises to the prisoners. Mr. Raynor occupied the house until September, when he went to reside at Nottingham, leaving the Watsons in charge, he at times going over to look at the orchard. On the day of the murder he left home at twenty

1867 minutes past four, and went to Carlton, saying that he should be home again by six o'clock. He was seen at the house he had resided in at Carlton at a quarter-past five, after which he was not seen again alive, but at twenty minutes to eight his body was found with his head laid across the rails of the Midland railway not far from the bottom of the fields he had occupied. His death had evidently been caused by violence. Various suspicious circumstances caused the Watsons to be arrested, and after several remands they were committed to the assizes, when, after a very minute investigation of the case, the jury acquitted them both.

March 14.—Destruction of the Mechanics' Hall by fire. About four o'clock in the morning, a policeman on duty perceived a light at the west end of the room. He immediately gave an alarm, and in a short time Supt. Jenkins arrived with a portion of the fire brigade, but the fire had made such progress that all their exertions could not prevent the destruction of the large hall and the organ, also the portrait of Mr. John Heathcote, of Tiverton, presented by Mr. James Fisher, the portrait of Mr. Alfred Lowe, of Highfield House, and the portrait of the late President of the Institution, J. S. Wright, Esq., of Rempstone Hall, who gave a large portion of the land on which the institution stands and subscribed liberally both to the building and to the organ. Fortunately, at an early stage of the fire, measures were taken to remove the books belonging to the library, which were all got safely away, partly to Mr. Mather's, at the Shakespeare inn, and partly to the schools of Trinity church. A great part of the natural history museum was also saved, being removed to the house of Dr. Varley and other places. The building and contents were insured for £3,950.

March 20.—An alarming fire occurred on the premises of Mr. Smith, chenille and gimp manufacturer, London-road. The premises were extensive, being 150 feet long by 40 feet high, but the fire was confined to the upper portion.

April 2.—The Watch Committee agreed to order one of Shand & Mason's steam fire engines, at a cost of £650.

April.—Memorial window to the late Mr. Daft, draper, Long-row, placed in St. James's church. The subject is the parable of the ten virgins. The window consists of five compartments, the two on the right contain figures of the five wise virgins, and the corresponding two on the left contain figures of the five foolish, and the centre one contains that of the bridegroom.

June 6, 7, & 8.—Cricket match at Fenner's ground, between the following eleven of Notts, A. Shaw, C. Brampton, W. Oscroft, R. Daft, G. Parr, G. Paling, R. C. Tinley, S. Biddulph, G. Wootton, G. Howitt, and J. C. Shaw, and eleven of Cambridge. Notts. scored 114 and 182, Cambridge 79 and 97. Our team won by 120 runs.

June 10.—The steam fire engine ordered on the 2nd of April having arrived, it was publicly tried in the Great Market-

place, when it discharged 400 to 500 gallons of water a minute to the height of 180 feet. 1867

June 20, 21, & 22.—Cricket match at Islington, between eleven of Notts. composed of G. Summers, A. Shaw, J. Oscroft, R. Daft, W. Oscroft, G. Paling, J. Grundy, R. C. Tinley, S. Biddulph, G. Wootton, and J. C. Shaw, who scored 217 and 111 for the loss of four wickets. Middlesex scored 190 and 137. Our team won by six wickets.

July 1, 2, & 3.—Return cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between the same eleven of Notts. as played in the previous Cambridge match (with the exception of J. Grundy in the place of G. Parr) and eleven of Cambridge. The home team scored 61 and 147, the visitors 200 and 9 for the loss of one wicket.

July 24.—The opening services of Addison-street Congregational chapel were conducted by Dr. Smith, the Revs. W. R. Stevenson, J. Matheson, &c. The building is of iron, and will seat 520 persons. The cost, including the land (2,600 yards), was about £2,300.

July 25, 26, & 27.—Return cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Middlesex and the same eleven of Notts. as played in the second match, with the exception of G. Parr in the place of R. C. Tinley. The visitors scored 215 and 118, the home team 204 and 131 for the loss of six wickets.

August 26, 27, & 28.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of the North of England and eleven of Notts. The home team scored 111 and 109, the Northerners 92 and 240, winning by 112 runs.

October 16.—Presentation of a piece of plate of the value of one hundred guineas, subscribed by the officers and men of the regiment, to Lieut.-Colonel Wright, of the Robin Hood Rifles, on the occasion of his having had the command of the battalion seven years. The presentation was made in the Exchange Hall, by the Duke of St. Alban's, in the presence of a most brilliant assemblage of ladies and gentlemen.

October 22.—Opening services in connection with the restoration of St. Mary's church, when a sermon was preached by His Grace the Archbishop of York, and a collection was made at the conclusion of the service which realized £334.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. Some of the wards were contested with the following result:—*St. Ann's*, J. Hartshorn 652, F. B. Baker 650, L. Torr 301, W. Pare 279; *Byron*, W. Lambert and J. Sweet; *Castle*, R. Earwaker 377, R. B. Bond 377, F. W. Parsons 95, G. Belf 93; *Exchange*, W. Hammersley and W. R. Brewill; *St. Mary's*, W. Nicholls 352, J. Parkins 296, J. Bradshaw 21, M. Middleton 32, J. Comyn 36; *Park*, T. Hill and M. I. Preston; *Sherwood*, R. F. Chatwin and J. Manning.

November 9.—Mr. George Smith elected councillor for Castle Ward in the room of Mr. Ben Hawkridge, deceased.

November 9.—Mr. J. Barber appointed Mayor; Mr. C. G. Hill, Sheriff.

1867 *November 18.*—The warehouse of Messrs. Hutchinson and Bentley, Woolpack-lane, nearly destroyed by fire. The building was insured for £1,000, and the stock for £600.

December 9.—Total destruction by fire of a basket manufactory in the rear of the shop of Mr. Tompson, draper, Long-row West.

December.—Coal found on the Clifton estate on the north of the Trent, at the depth of 157 feet.

1868.

1868 *January 6.*—Presentation of regimental prizes for 1867 to the Robin Hood Rifles, by Lady Edward Pelham Clinton.

February 1.—Tremendous gale in Nottingham and throughout the county.

March 6.—Mr. Luke Hardy elected an Alderman to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Alderman North, who died at Basford Hall, February 28th, in his 60th year.

March 21.—A peal of 5,093 grandsire cators rung at St. Mary's church by W. Lee 1st, J. Wibberley 2nd, G. Ashmore 3rd, W. Widdowson 4th, S. Wilkins 5th, T. Sanderson 6th, W. Langley 7th, F. Johnson 8th, G. Middleton 9th, W. Holroyd and A. Archer, tenor. They occupied three hours and thirty-seven minutes. A peal of this kind had not been rung at St. Mary's for forty-seven years. The tenor bell weighs 36 cwt.

April 13.—The Nottingham Free Library was opened on Easter Monday of this year. The first endeavour to establish a free library for the town emanated from the Nottingham Naturalists' Society, in 1863, but it was not thought desirable to call a town's meeting for several years after. The committee of the Artizans' Library being in pecuniary difficulties, they offered the library to the town on discharging the liability of the committee. A well attended meeting of influential gentlemen was held in the Mayor's parlour, Jan. 4th, 1867, to consider the offer, which resulted in the appointment of a committee to secure the library and fittings, and offer them to the town as a nucleus of a free library. Memorials in favour of the adoption of the Libraries Act, 1855, were presented to the Town Council, May 16th. The Mayor called a public meeting in accordance with the Act, which was held at the Exchange, May 29th, 1867. After the working of the Act in other towns had been explained, the meeting resolved, "That the Libraries Act ought to be, and be now adopted, for the Borough of Nottingham." There was only one person who voted against the resolution, and he subsequently became a borrower. At the next meeting of the Town Council, held July 8th, a committee was appointed to carry out the Act. At the same meeting the Naturalists' Society offered its museum and library to the

town : the offer being accepted. At a special Council Meeting, September 23rd, 1867, the committee reported that it had become possessed of the Artizans' Library. From this time the committee exerted their energies in the selection and purchase of books : Mr. John Palmer, of Manchester, was appointed librarian, and Mr. Thomas Dent, sub-librarian. The room (that of the Artizans' Library, in Thurland-street) was cleaned and painted, the books arranged and catalogued, and on Easter Monday, in the presence of the Aldermen, Town Councillors, and gentry of the town and neighbourhood, the library was opened by Mr. Alderman John Barber, Mayor, who borrowed the first book, Smiles's "History of the Huguenots." The meeting was addressed by Capt. Starey, R.H.R., the indefatigable chairman, Aldermen Thackeray and Page, Mr. Mundella, Mr. M. I. Preston, Sheriff, and the late Rev. James Matheson. At this time there were about 10,000 vols. in the library ; 400 applications for membership were received ; and 252 cards of membership granted. The first day's issue was 170 vols. Mr. Preston, the Sheriff, presented a good nucleus for a library of local literature. On December 28th, 1868, the library consisted of 12,270 vols. In the summer of 1869 the librarian left, and Mr. John Potter Briscoe, principal sub-librarian at Bolton, was elected August 5th, 1869, to succeed him, out of 153 applicants for the office. Large additions were now made to the stock, members were enrolled in large numbers, the circulation of books increased, a news-room was opened, the patent library was arranged, the reference library was formed, and the library of local literature very greatly increased. During the small pox epidemic the library was closed from December 14th, 1871, to June 3rd, 1872, during which time the books were disinfected by the fumes of carbolic acid, a supplementary catalogue was compiled, and also a catalogue of the reference library, including the local books and pamphlets. A branch reading-room was opened in Carter-gate, July, 1876. The benefits of the libraries were extended to the inhabitants of the districts about to become incorporated with the town, Sept. 1st. Branch reading-rooms were opened at Bulwell, January 26th, 1878, and at Basford, February 9th, 1878, the latter being closed Saturday, Sept. 27th, 1879. The Carter-gate room proving too small, it was closed March 7th, 1878, and another was opened in the neighbourhood, at Sneinton, March 9th, 1878. At the present time the Nottingham Free Public Libraries consist of a lending library, reference library (including the patent library), and news-room at Thurland-street ; a reference library and reading-room at Sneinton ; and a reading-room and lending library at Bulwell. In all there are about 25,000 vols., the annual issues exceed 160,000, and there are more than 5,000 actual members of the lending library. The principal librarian is Mr. John Potter Briscoe, Fellow and local Secretary of the Royal Historical Society of Great Britain, member of several learned societies, and author of numerous publications of general and local interest. The

1863 central library, at present located in Thurland-street, will be removed to the new University Building during the summer of 1880.

April.—The Free Grammar School removed from Stoney-street to the handsome building in Arboretum-street, and the name changed to Nottingham High School. It is divided into upper and lower schools. The education in the upper school is classical. The foundation stone was laid October 18th, 1866.

May 28, 29, & 30.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Lancashire. The home team comprised G. Summers, A. Shaw, J. Oscroft, R. Daft, W. Oscroft, G. Parr, J. Beevor, Esq., S. Biddulph, S. Sharpe, G. Wootton, and J. C. Shaw. The visitors scored 74 and 148, Notts. 296, winning by an innings and 74 runs.

June 8.—The first sod of Clifton Colliery turned by Lady Clifton, in the presence of many thousands of persons, on which occasion a silver spade was presented to her ladyship by the Independent Society of Nottingham as a token of respect.

June 17.—Opening of the Congregational Institute on Forest-road. The style of the structure is Gothic of the 14th century, and the materials are red bricks with stone dressings. The building contains on the ground floor a large entrance hall, reception room, staircase, a large class room, and library. The second story is occupied by the lecture hall, which is a very large and lofty room, 60 feet by 30 feet, with open timbered roof. The houses of the tutors are at either end of the building, and are spacious, convenient, and comfortable. The foundation stone was laid by Mr. James Sidebotton, of Manchester, on June 26th, 1867. Mr. R. C. Sutton was the architect, and the cost, including the furnishing of the library, lecture room, and other items, about £5,400, not including the land.

July 2, 3, & 4.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Yorkshire. The home team were the same as in the Lancashire match, with the exception of G. Howitt in place of J. Beevor, Esq. Notts. scored 60 and 158, Yorkshire 213 and 8 for the loss of one wicket.

July 13, 14, & 15.—Cricket match at Kennington Oval, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Surrey. Our team comprised G. Summers, A. Shaw, F. Wild, R. Daft, W. Oscroft, J. Oscroft, J. R. Truswell, Esq., S. Biddulph, M. M'Intyre, G. Wootton, and J. C. Shaw, who scored 58 and 166, Surrey 114 and 184, winning by 74 runs.

July 27, 28, & 29.—Return cricket match at Dewsbury, between eleven of Yorkshire and eleven of Notts. Our team comprised G. Summers, A. Shaw, J. Oscroft, R. Daft, T. Wright, F. Wild, G. Parr, S. Biddulph, M. M'Intyre, G. Wootton, and J. C. Shaw. Yorkshire scored 85 and 76, Notts. 162 and 107, winning by 108 runs.

July 28.—One of the most extraordinary fires ever known in this neighbourhood broke out on the Trent-side, caused by the

extrême dryness of the season. About three o'clock in the afternoon, the grass in a field occupied by Mr. Taylor was discovered to be on fire, the flames spreading with great rapidity. P. A. Walker, from the Trent-bridge police station, with assistance, was soon on the spot, but by their arrival the fire had taken possession of several fields, the grass being completely burnt, and the hedge-rows crackling in all directions. He immediately mounted an ash tree, and having supplied the bystanders with boughs, they made a determined effort to beat out the fire. In this they partially succeeded, and the steam fire engine having arrived, a steady stream was directed on the flames, which were soon extinguished. The fields, seven in number, through which the fire had passed presented a very peculiar appearance, not a single blade of perfect grass was to be seen, and in consequence of the long continued drought many trees were half burnt down. This was an exceedingly dry summer, the dryest since the drought of 1826. 1863

July 30, 31, & August 1.—Return cricket match at Old Trafford ground, Manchester, between eleven of Lancashire and eleven of Notts. Our county was represented by G. Summers, A. Shaw, M. M'Intyre, R. Daft, P. W. H. Miles, Esq., G. Parr, J. Oscroft, J. R. Truswell, Esq., S. Biddulph, G. Wootton, and J. C. Shaw, who scored 127 and 110. Lancashire 168 and 53. Notts. won by 16 runs.

August 6.—Died at his residence, Hounds-gate, aged 86 years, Mr. Samuel Fox. His remains were interred in the cemetery belonging to the Society of Friends, Clarendon-street, in the presence of a very large concourse, most of whom mourned the loss of a friend, and many that of a benefactor.

August 27, 28, & 29.—Return cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Surrey and eleven of Notts. Our team comprised A. Shaw, G. Summers, T. Wright, Esq., R. Daft, T. Bignall, M. M'Intyre, F. Wild, S. Biddulph, G. Wootton, R. C. Tinley, and J. C. Shaw, who scored 129 and 202. Surrey 69 and 78. Notts. won by 184 runs.

October 30.—Slight shocks of earthquake felt in Nottingham, and in various parts of the country.

November 2.—New County Court buildings in St. Peter's-gate opened.

November 3.—The Municipal elections. Byron and Castle were the only contested wards, as shown below :—*St. Ann's*, T. R. Starey and E. Massey; *Byron*, J. Riste 694, W. Gregory 490, G. Belk 374; *Castle*, J. R. Annibal 297, G. Smith 297, J. Trevitt 243, C. Cordon 229; *Exchange*, H. Hind and W. Greaves; *St. Mary's*, J. R. Browne and W. Skinner; *Park*, N. Dickinson and J. Thompson; *Sherwood*, S. Butler and J. S. Butler.

November 9.—Mr. J. Barber appointed Mayor, and Mr. C. G. Hill, Sheriff, each for the second time; and the following Aldermen were elected :—Messrs. J. Reckless, L. Heymann, J. Howitt, T. Cullen, W. Page, J. L. Thackeray, and W. Knight.

1868

November 14.—Funeral of the Marquis of Hastings at Kensall Green Cemetery.

November 17.—Mr. J. Gamble elected Councillor for Sherwood Ward in the room of Mr. J. Howitt, appointed Alderman.

November 17.—Election of two members for the borough of Nottingham in consequence of a dissolution of Parliament. There were five candidates in the field, Sir R. J. Clifton and Lieut.-Colonel Wright being returned. The following is a list of the candidates, and the number each polled :—Sir R. J. Clifton, 5285 ; Lieut.-Col. Wright, 4591 ; Mr. Chas. Seely, 4004 ; Mr. P. W. Clayden, 2716 ; and Mr. R. Bernal Osborne, 2631. This election passed off with much less excitement than characterised many former elections for the borough.

November 23.—Mr. A. J. Mundella appointed Alderman in the room of L. Heymann, Esq., who had retired through ill health.

November 23.—The Right Hon. J. E. Denison, Speaker of the House of Commons, and F. C. Smith, Esq., returned for the northern division of the county of Nottingham without opposition.

December 7.—Mr. J. Oldknow appointed Alderman in the place of the late Mr. Alderman Fowler, who died on the 29th of the previous month.

December.—Two memorial windows of stained glass were placed in the chancel of St. Mary's church. One to the memory of the late Mr. William Wright, which represents the Annunciation, the Temptation, and the Ministry of Angels ; and the other to the memory of the late Sir Charles Fellows, representing John the Baptist pointing out our Saviour as the Lamb of God, and some illustrations of the Sermon on the Mount. They were executed by Messrs. Ward & Hughes, of London.

December 15.—The Post Office, which was for some years situate in Albert-street, was this day removed to the new buildings erected at the top of Victoria-street.

December 16.—Mr. John Trevitt elected Councillor for St. Ann's Ward, in the place of Mr. J. Oldknow.

December 17.—A destructive fire broke out on the premises of Mr. Smedley, manufacturer, of Sandiacre. The building and machinery were entirely destroyed.

December 19.—An alarming accident occurred on the Midland railway at the Mansfield Junction, when some passengers were seriously injured.

December 23.—Presentation of prizes to the Robin Hood Rifles by Her Grace the Duchess of St. Albans, in the Exhibition Building.

December 27.—Gale and high flood in the Meadows.

December 28.—A sad occurrence took place at Bingham. Mr. Charles Doncaster and a boy named Attenborough, both residents in the village, were returning home in a conveyance about seven

o'clock from Granby, and had to cross the river Smite, which runs at the foot of a hill about two miles from Bingham. Soon afterwards some waggoners passing saw a portion of the cart in the stream, and Mr. Doncaster and the boy were afterwards found drowned, having been carried about half-a-mile below the ford. 1868

December 29.—Celebration of Sir R. J. Clifton's return as member for Nottingham, in the Exhibition Building, under the auspices of the Nottingham Independent Society. About 1,700 partook of tea.

December 29.—Sale of the library of the late Marquis of Hastings, at Messrs. Pott & Neale's auction mart, by Mr. Phillips, of London. The sale continued several days.

1869.

January 19.—Opening of the Mechanics' Hall, re-built from the design of Mr. T. Simpson, partly on the site of the old hall, some of the walls of which were used in the erection of the present structure. 1869

February 3.—Marriage, at Wollaton church, of the Hon. Alexandrina Henrietta Matilda Willoughby, eldest daughter of the Right Hon. Lord Middleton, to Sir J. H. Thorold, Bart., of Syston Park, near Grantham.

February 5.—Death of Mr. Richard Howitt, at Edingley, near Southwell, aged 69 years. He was well known as the author of "Impressions of Australia." He formerly carried on business as a chemist and druggist, in Lower Parliament-street. He afterwards emigrated to Australia, from whence he returned and settled at Edingley.

March 7.—Death of Sir Arthur Clifton, G.C.B., K.C.H., at Brighton. Sir Arthur was born in 1772, and was a general in the army, and Colonel of the 1st Dragoons. He was interred on the 13th in Clifton church, and was succeeded by his nephew, Sir R. J. Clifton.

March 29 (Easter Monday).—Mr. Holt's six-part peal of grandsire triples was rung on the bells of All Saints' church, consisting of 190 bobs, 50 singles, and 5,040 changes, which was accomplished in two hours and fifty-six minutes, by the following persons:—J. Wibberley 1st, S. Wilkins 2nd, T. Sanderson 3rd, J. Lennard 4th, R. Gosling 5th, W. Widdowson 6th, G. Middleton 7th, C. Bradbury, tenor. Conducted by G. Middleton.

May 30.—Death of Sir R. J. Clifton, Bart., senior member for the borough. The deceased, who was the ninth baronet, was born in 1826, his mother being the daughter of John Swinfen, Esq., of Swinfen, Staffordshire. Sir Robert was educated at Eton, and on his return from school remained for some time at Clifton Hall, subsequently he passed much of his time abroad, principally at

1869 **Paria.** He succeeded to the title and the Clifton estates in 1852, on the death of his father (Sir Juckes Granville Clifton, Bart.), and in the following year married Geraldine, daughter of Colonel O'Meara. A vacancy having occurred in the representation of the borough, through the elevation of Mr. Mellor to the judicial bench, at the close of 1861, he offered himself as a candidate, and after an exciting contest was returned by a majority of 1,402 over the late Duke of Newcastle (then Lord Lincoln). He again contested the borough at the general election in 1865, and was returned by a majority of 27 over Mr. Paget, who was third. Sir Robert's colleague was Mr. Samuel Morley. Petitions were lodged against the return of both members; and both members were unseated for bribery and intimidation, and were thus prohibited from sitting in that Parliament. He was again returned at the general election in November, 1868, in conjunction with Lieut.-Colonel Wright. He succeeded to the Barton estate on the death of Sir Arthur Clifton, March 7th, 1869. Sir Robert's funeral took place at Clifton church, on the 7th of June, in the presence of an immense concourse of spectators. W. T. Markham, Esq., of Becca Hall, Yorkshire, succeeded to the estate, taking up the name of Clifton.

May 31 & June 1 & 2.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Yorkshire. The home team comprised H. Enfield, Esq., G. Summers, T. Bignall, R. Daft, G. Parr, W. Oscroft, A. Shaw, F. Wild, G. Howitt, R. C. Tinley, and J. C. Shaw, who scored 111 and 204, the Yorkshire men 43 and 171. Notts. won by 101 runs.

June 7.—Death of Lord Broughton (Sir John Cam Hobhouse), aged 83 years. He was five times elected Member of Parliament for Nottingham, and represented the borough from 1834 to 1847.

June 8.—Captain Parry appointed Chief Constable in the place of Mr. J. Freeman, who had resigned.

June 15.—Election of a Member of Parliament in the place of the late Sir R. J. Clifton. At the close of the poll the numbers were Charles Seely, Esq., (Liberal), 4634; William Digby Seymour, Esq., (Conservative), 4525. There was much disturbance, the Riot Act was read, and the Pensioners called out, but little damage was done with the exception of a few broken heads and windows.

June 29.—The new organ at the Mechanics' Hall opened by Mr. Best, of Liverpool. The cost of it was £800, and it was built by Messrs. Hill & Son, of London.

July 5, 6, & 7.—Cricket match at Lord's ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of M.C.C. and Ground. Our team comprised G. Summers, T. Bignall, W. Oscroft, R. Daft, F. Wild, A. Shaw, P. W. H. Miles, Esq., S. Biddulph, R. C. Tinley, G. Wootton, and J. C. Shaw, who scored 129 and 295, M.C.C. 112 and 210. Notts. won by 102 runs.

July 6.—Presentation to the Rev. J. Martin on his relinquishing the pastorate of the Baptist chapel, Derby-road, he having accepted an invitation from a church in Australia, to which colony he was about to emigrate. 1869

July 8, 9, & 10.—Cricket match at the Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Surrey. The home team comprised the same players as in the M.C.C. match, with the exception of J. Oscroft in the place of P. W. H. Miles, Esq. The visitors scored 163 and 104, Notts. 187 and 82 for the loss of one wicket.

July 22, 23, & 24.—Cricket match at Tunbridge Wells, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Kent. Our team comprised F. Wild, G. Summers, W. Oscroft, R. Daft, T. Bignall, J. Oscroft, W. Price, S. Biddulph, W. McIntyre, G. Wootton, and J. C. Shaw. Kent scored 112 and 114, Notts. 251, winning by an innings and 25 runs.

July 23.—Mr. Henry Enfield, one of the Borough Magistrates, died suddenly at Matlock.

July 26.—Commencement of the sale of the effects of the late Sir R. J. Clifton, at Clifton Hall, by Mr. Richard Grundy.

July 29.—A commission opened at the Shire Hall, before Mr. Baron Martin, to try the election petition, presented by the Independent Society, against the return of Charles Seely, Esq. Mr. Serjeant Parry, Mr. Macnamara, Mr. Yeatman, and Mr. Hannay for the petitioners, and Serjeant Ballantine and Serjeant Sargood for the defence. The evidence being weak, the petition was abandoned on the fourth day, and Charles Seely, Esq., was declared duly elected.

July 29, 30, & 31.—Return cricket match at Kennington Oval, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Surrey. Our team comprised G. Summers, T. Bignall, J. G. Beevor, Esq., W. Oscroft, R. Daft, A. Shaw, W. Price, S. Biddulph, G. Wootton, G. Howitt, and J. C. Shaw. Surrey scored 206 and 208, Notts. 356 and 61 for the loss of four wickets, thirteen minutes before the time for drawing the stumps on the third day.

August 15.—A destructive fire occurred on the premises of Mr. Harston, at the junction of Queen-street and Carlton-street.

August 16, 17, & 18.—Return cricket match at Sheffield, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Yorkshire. The Notts. team were the same as in the last match, with the exception of F. Wild in place of G. Howitt, who scored 213 and 79. The Yorkshire men compiled 205 and 88 for the loss of five wickets.

August 19, 20, & 21.—Return cricket match on Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Kent. The visitors scored 52 and 113, Notts. 446, winning by an innings and 281 runs.

August 27.—Annual inspection of the Robin Hood Rifles, at the Castle grounds, by Colonel Wombwell, who was accompanied by the Duke of St. Albans. The Duchess of St. Albans, Lady

- 1869 Diana Beauclerk, Lord and Lady Belper, Colonel and Mrs. Welfitt, and many other ladies and gentlemen were also present. After the inspection, Mrs. Welfitt, in the name of her husband, presented the battalion with the Queen's colour of the volunteers of 1812, making the following appropriate speech :—" My Lord Duke, Lieut.-Colonel Wright, officers, and members of the Robin Hoods, I feel deeply the honour of having to present colours to so fine a regiment, a corps of which every one in this county must be justly proud, and join in thanking them for having so largely raised the honour of the county by the efficiency of their discipline and the steadiness of their conduct. My husband rejoices in the opportunity of having these colours to present to you, and which your noble Colonel has accepted in such a kind manner on your behalf. At the time when the local Militia Volunteers were disbanded at the conclusion of the great continental war, this standard remained in the possession of Colonel Welfitt's father, who had commanded the regiment. We are sorry to have no more of its story to tell, by whom it was first given, or on what occasion. He has made every effort to trace its origin, but without success, and we can only express our satisfaction that it should now rest in such worthy hands."

September 7.—The workmen engaged in sinking No. 2 shaft at Wilford pit struck a seam of coal.

September 9.—Death of Lady Palmerston, in her 83rd year.

September 14.—Foundation stone of the new Presbyterian church, Belgrave-square, Goldsmith-street, laid by R. Barbour, Esq., of Bolesworth Castle.

September 18.—Nearly 2½ inches of rain fell in twelve hours, the greatest amount on record. The estimated weight of the rain that fell in the borough of Nottingham was 400,000 tons.

September 30.—A second seam of coal struck at Clifton Colliery.

October 9.—A fearful railway accident occurred on the Midland railway, about midway between Borrowash and Trent stations. A heavy return excursion train, with visitors to the Goose Fair, left the station at Nottingham about 11.30 p.m. for Leicester, and was followed immediately by the mail for Derby. From some unknown cause the excursion was stopped beyond the Erewash bridge, and the night being very foggy the mail ran into the special with a fearful crash. Seven of the excursionists were killed, and many injured. An inquest was held on the Monday following by the coroner for the county of Derby, the accident occurring just within that county, and much to the surprise of both the inhabitants of Nottingham and the friends of the deceased, was concluded the same day, a verdict of "accidental death" being returned.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. The whole of the seven wards were contested, with the following result :—*St. Ann's*, D. W. Heath 1,443, J. Trevitt 1,424, J. Loverseed 821, W. Pare 797; *Byron*, W. Gregory 918, H. Egginton 907, G. Belk 347, S. Whitchurch 335; *Castle*, J. Brown 436, C. Cole 436, W. Lewis 87,

J. North 78; *Exchange*, W. Wright 609, J. Thompson 601, B. 1869 Cranch 253, C. Lacey 243; *St. Mary's*, T. Adams 485, S. Turner 485, J. Sylvester 159, F. N. Burrows 159; *Park*, W. Wright 426, W. Foster 417, C. B. Truman 223, T. Wood 208; *Sherwood*, J. Barber 1,007, G. B. Rothera 935, J. Comyn 840.

November 9.—Mr. James Oldknow appointed Mayor; Mr. J. W. Bowers, Sheriff.

November 16.—Mr. W. G. Ward elected Councillor for Sherwood Ward, in the room of Mr. G. B. Rothera, who had refused to accept the seat, on the ground that certain parties had bribed electors to vote for him. There was a strong contest between Mr. Ward and Mr. J. Comyn, who had contested the ward five times in the conservative interest. Mr. Ward polled 1,106, and Mr. Comyn 844. He had previously polled 840 as Mr. Rothera's opponent.

November 25.—At the Nottingham Licensed Victuallers' dinner, Lieut.-Colonel Wright, M.P., in the chair, Mr. F. C. Smith, M.P., stated that he had been looking at the balance sheet of one of his forefathers, who kept the Nottingham Bank, and who died in 1727. It showed £40,000 of deposits, which included deposits made by gentlemen from Manchester, Leeds, and other towns, as he believed there was no other bank north of London. The balance sheets of the Nottingham banks would now show about two millions of money.

December 2.—Regimental prizes presented to the Robin Hood Rifles by Alderman James Oldknow, Mayor.

December 18.—Amy Jennings, midwife, of Nottingham, was tried and acquitted at the Notts. Winter Assizes, on a charge of causing the death of Hannah Brown, of Mansfield, in the performance of an unlawful operation.

December 19.—The highest flood since 1852. At its highest the water was 17 or 18 inches below that flood.

1870.

January 12.—Grand ball given at the Mechanics' Hall by the Mayor of Nottingham, James Oldknow, Esq. The last civic ball was given by T. North, Esq., in the year 1845.

February 2.—The Rev. Charles Mackenzie, D.D., consecrated Suffragan Bishop of Nottingham, at St. Mary's church.

February 6.—The factory of Messrs. Bayldon & Co., yarn spinners, Canal-street, destroyed by fire, and the premises of Mr. A. Pyatt, timber merchant, and those of Mr. W. Harris, Steam Saw Mills, both adjoining, were much injured. This was a most extensive conflagration, and at one time threatened the destruction of an immense amount of property. The damage was estimated at about £14,000.

1870 *February 23.*—Election of a Member of Parliament for the borough of Nottingham, to supply the vacancy caused by the retirement of Lieut.-Colonel Wright, who had resigned through ill health. The candidates were the Hon. Auberon Herbert and Mr. W. D. Seymour, Q.C. The usual amount of excitement was displayed, accompanied by acts of violence. At about four o'clock in the afternoon an immense crowd assembled in the Great Market-place, fights were got up, respectable women were assaulted, and injuries of a serious character inflicted. Many of the rioters were apprehended, and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment. The Hon. A. Herbert was elected, the numbers at the official declaration of the poll being, Herbert 4,971, Seymour 4,675.

March 7.—Death of the Rev. D. Whalley, M.A., rector of St. Peter's.

March 16.—Shortly after seven o'clock in the evening a fire broke out in the factory of the Nottingham Manufacturing Co., Station-street. The fire brigade quickly appeared on the scene with the steam and a manual engine, but from some cause much time was lost in getting to work, meanwhile the fire spread with alarming rapidity, and shortly after eight o'clock the roof fell in with a tremendous crash. The fire was confined to the factory portion of the establishment.

April 3.—Another immense conflagration occurred on the premises previously occupied by Messrs. Adams & Co., situate in St. Mary's-gate, and in the occupation of various tenants, which destroyed the back portion of that extensive range of buildings. The damage was estimated at upwards of £10,000.

April 19.—A man named Moss, who had a short time previously been sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment for assaulting his daughter, committed suicide in the town gaol.

April 26.—Mr. S. Adams, of the firm of T. Adams & Co., died suddenly.

May 17.—Captain Starey presented an ambulance waggon to the Robin Hood Rifles.

June 9, 10, & 11.—Cricket match at Kennington Oval, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Surrey. Our team were J. G. Beevor, Esq., T. Bignall, G. Summers, R. Daft, F. Wild, W. M'Intyre, W. Oscroft, A. Shaw, G. Wootton, S. Biddulph, and J. C. Shaw, who scored 161 and 325, Surrey 146 and 232. Notts won by 108 runs.

June 13, 14, & 15.—Cricket match at Lord's, between the same eleven of Notts. and eleven of M.C.C. and ground. Our team scored 267 and 157, M.C.C. 183 and 240. Notts won by one wicket. In this match Geo. Summers was accidentally struck by a rising ball delivered by Platts, causing his death a few days afterwards. A monument was erected to his memory in the General Cemetery, Nottingham, by the Marylebone Cricket Club.

June 16.—The Wilford Bridge and Collieries opened by Lady Clifton. About the year 1855 operations for boring were com-

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menced at Clifton, near the Hall, but subsequently abandoned. On May 1st, 1867, boring was commenced in the Brickyard Spinney on the south of the Trent, and on the 7th of August coal was found 5 feet 7 inches in thickness. It was then determined to bore on the north of the river, which was commenced on the 14th October, 1867, and concluded in March the following year, the operations having been carried on under the direction of Mr. Marsh. Four beds of coal were proved, and negotiations were then entered into for putting down boilers, engines, &c. On the 8th of June, Lady Clifton turned the first sod, in the presence of Sir Robert and many thousands of the people of Nottingham. The result was that 24 seams of coal were gone through, some of them very valuable. The following is a statement of the seams of coal discovered:—At the depth of 60 yards and 11 inches, a seam of coal 2 feet 8 inches in thickness; 6 yards lower there was a thin seam 6 inches in thickness; another 3 feet, and then a seam 8 inches in depth. The hard top seam was at a distance of 70 yards 5 inches below the surface. The next valuable seam was the Dunsil (a yard thick) at a depth of 94 yards 5 inches. Nine yards lower the Waterloo seam was reached, 3 feet 3 inches in thickness; blue clunch and bind succeeded for nine yards, when a seam of fair workable coal was found 2 feet thick. Coal, mingled with swinge, then followed to the extent of 23 yards; another small seam, and the valuable bed known as the "Rattle Jack" seam, 1 yard 2½ inches in thickness, was found at a depth of rather more than 175 yards. Clunch and whetstone ironstone made up the next 27 yards, and with the exception of 11 inches of coal nothing worthy of note was met with until the sinkers had attained a depth of rather over 230 yards, when a bed of good soft coal 2 feet 10 inches in thickness was won; and at a depth of rather more than 239 yards an excellent bed of coal termed "The Deep Softs" 3 feet 2 inches in thickness was intercepted. About 8 feet of clunch having been passed through, another seam rather over 2 feet thick was met with. Bind, &c., to the extent of 12 yards and 2 feet 4 inches separated the above seam from another bed known as the "Deep Hards" 5 feet 7½ inches in thickness; blue and stone bind together with shale was found for rather more than 13 yards, when the lowest and richest seam was successfully won at a depth of 267 yards and 2 feet from the surface.

The bridge was begun by Sir Robert Clifton several years before, and was delayed for a considerable period. It consists of three openings. The centre span is 100 feet clear, and the side openings are each 85 feet in the clear. The supports in the river are cylinders, seven feet diameter, of cast iron, carrying a group of four ornamental columns upon each cylinder, and surmounted with moulded caps, covered with oak foliage. Upon these columns, double lattice main-girders rest; the centre main-girders horizontal, and the side main-girders falling each way from the centre, at an incline of 1 in 64. The extremities of the side main-girders rest

1870 upon ornamental abutments and pilasters built in brick with facing and moulded stonework, surmounted with a cluster of ornamental lamps. The superstructure over the Trent consists of single lattice cross-girders, suspended from the main-girders, and covered with wrought-iron plates, stiffened by T irons; and the roadway, 22 feet wide, consisting of wood-sets (paving) laid in asphalt. The footpaths are five feet wide, asphalted, and protected by granite curbs and stone channels. There are six flood arches on each side of abutments, varying from 14 to 19 feet span, carried upon piers of stonework, with intermediate brickwork. The bridge was designed by Mr. E. W. Hughes, C.E., of London, and carried out under his superintendence. The contractor for the masonry and brickwork was Mr. Charles Wright, of Nottingham, and for the ironwork Messrs. Handyside & Co., of Derby.

The double ceremony passed off in a manner in every way worthy of the importance of the occasion. The announcement that Lady Clifton would open the colliery and bridge had created great interest in the town and neighbourhood, and to this fact may be attributed the attendance of a considerable portion of the 20,000 or 30,000 persons who visited Wilford and its surroundings. A banquet, to celebrate the event, afterwards took place in the Exchange Hall, under the presidency of Mr. Saul Isaac.

June 23, 24, & 25.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Yorkshire. Our team comprised W. Oscroft, T. Bignall, W. Price, R. Daft, W. M'Intyre, A. Shaw, J. Selby, R. Houseley, G. Martin, G. Howitt, and J. C. Shaw. Notts. scored 56 and 172, Yorkshire 108 and 122, winning by two runs.

June 23.—A tremendous conflagration took place a little before twelve o'clock at night, upon the premises of Mr. W. Bridgett, silk and cotton spinner, Woolpack-lane, a factory four stories high, by which an immense amount of damage was done, and the building entirely gutted.

June 27.—Foundation stone of St. Andrew's church, at the junction of Mansfield and Mapperley-roads, laid by the Rev. Preb. Brooks, of Great Ponton, formerly vicar of St. Mary's church, Nottingham. The estimated cost of the building, including the land and other items, was about £5,680.

July 25.—Mr. S. G. Johnson appointed Town Clerk in the place of Mr. Wm. Enfield, who had resigned. The salary was fixed at £1,000 a year, in addition to which the Town Council pay the salaries of all clerks employed in the office.

July 28, 29, & 30.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Kent and eleven of Notts. Our team were T. Bignall, W. Oscroft, J. Selby, R. Daft, G. Parr, F. Wild, W. M'Intyre, A. Shaw, S. Biddulph, G. Wootton, and J. C. Shaw. The visitors scored 41 and 73, Notts. 201, winning by an innings and 87 runs.

August 15, 16, & 17.—Cricket match at Bramall-lane ground, Sheffield, between the same eleven of Notts. and eleven of Yorkshire. Our team scored 146 and 142, Yorkshire 147 and 107 for the loss of six wickets. The match was drawn. 1870

August 18, 19, & 30.—Return cricket match at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, between the following eleven of Notts., W. Oscroft, T. Bignall, R. Butler, F. Wild, R. Daft, G. Parr, A. Shaw, S. Biddulph, G. Wootton, G. Howitt, and J. C. Shaw, and eleven of Kent. The home team scored 58 and 43, Notts. 167, winning by an inning and 66 runs. In Kent's first innings, so good was the all round play that the last five men only put on two runs. In Notts. first innings Daft, at 100 up, in running ricked his left leg, and had to be carried off the field.

August 25, 26, & 27.—Return cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Surrey. The home team scored 145 and 91, the visitors 209 and 80, winning by 53 runs.

October 8.—Death of Mr. Alderman Birkin, of Aspley Hall. Deceased was much respected, and had raised himself by his own exertions to the high position which he occupied. He had been four times Mayor of the borough, viz, in 1849, 1855, 1861, and 1862, and was elected Alderman in the room of Mr. J. Rodgers, deceased, in 1845. He was a borough and county Magistrate, and a Director of the Midland Railway Company. His widow died on the 10th, two days after her husband, and they were both interred in the General Cemetery on the 13th.

October 17.—At a Council meeting held this day, a motion for a School Board was adopted by a large majority.

October 26.—Election of Councillor for Byron Ward, in the room of Mr. Riste, who had become bankrupt. The only candidate was Mr. Joseph Topham, who was therefore duly elected.

October 28.—Death of Mr. John Rogers Browne, of the firm of Freeth, Browne, & Rawson, one of the representatives of St. Mary's Ward.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. *St. Ann's Ward*, R. A. Sylvester 1,107, J. Hartshorn 1,107, T. Bentley 680, W. Pare 679; *Byron*, W. Lambert and A. Parker; *Castle*, B. Cranch 492, H. A. Attenborough 488, R. Earwaker 437, R. B. Bond 224; *Exchange*, T. Dickinson and W. R. Brewill; *St. Mary's*, W. Nicholls and G. Parkin; *Park*, T. Hill 409, Johnson 400, C. B. Truman 212, J. Hooley 206; *Sherwood*, J. Manning and R. F. Chatwin.

November 9.—Mr. J. Manning appointed Mayor; Mr. J. G. Woodward, Sheriff.

November 29.—First School Board election for Nottingham. This was a closely contested election, and resulted in the defeat of the sectarian or church party. The following is an abstract from the official declaration of the poll. The first thirteen formed the board, and in addition to the names given, there were

1870 twenty-one other candidates, who polled numbers varying from 1820 down to 22 :—

Rev. H. Wright	...	6930	Mr. E. Gripper	...	3146
Mr. C. Paget	...	6415	Mr. J. C. L. Marsh	...	2815
Mr. Thurlow	...	6291	Mr. G. B. Rothera	...	2681
Rev. J. Dwyer	...	5494	Mr. R. Smith	...	2485
Mr. T. Bentley	...	5079	Mr. S. Turner	...	2405
Mr. G. H. Brown	...	4295	Mr. W. A. Richards	...	2371
Mr. W. G. Ward	...	3561	Mr. H. M. Baines	...	2258
Mr. J. W. Lewis	...	3559	Mr. J. S. Gilpin	...	2112
Rev. F. Morse	...	3377	Mr. T. Ashwell	...	2038

December 2.—Regimental prizes presented to the Robin Hood Rifles by Alderman Oldknow, J.P.

1871.

1871 *January 8.*—Serious fire at the paper warehouse of Messrs. Simons, Son, & Pickard, Castle-gate, by which an immense quantity of goods was destroyed or injured by fire and water. The damages amounted to £7,500.

March 9.—Wm. Astill, at the assizes, was sentenced to penal servitude for life, for the attempted murder of his wife, by firing at her with a pistol, and then cutting her throat with a razor.

April 2.—The population returns of the census this year exhibited the subjoined results :—

	Houses.	Males.	Females.	Total.
<i>St. Ann's</i>	... 4,810	... 11,290	... 12,939	... 24,229
<i>Byron</i>	... 3,237	... 6,927	... 8,114	... 15,041
<i>Castle</i>	... 3,730	... 3,519	... 4,236	... 7,755
<i>Exchange</i>	... 2,268	... 5,699	... 5,969	... 11,668
<i>St. Mary's,</i>	... 1,552	... 3,139	... 3,657	... 6,796
<i>Park,</i>	... 1,061	... 2,127	... 2,975	... 5,102
<i>Sherwood</i>	... 3,253	... 6,841	... 9,189	... 16,030
<i>Standard-hill &</i>				
<i>Castle Limits.</i>	216	453	856	1,309
<i>Brewhouse-yard</i>	23	50	60	110
<i>Lenton</i>	... 1,329	... 2,963	... 3,352	... 6,315
<i>Radford</i>	... 3,320	... 7,233	... 7,894	... 15,127
<i>Hyson Green...</i>	814	1,827	1,988	3,815
<i>Sneinton</i>	... 2,610	... 5,731	... 6,506	... 12,237

May 29, 30, & 31.—Cricket match at the Trent-bridge ground, between the county eleven and fourteen gentlemen of the county. The gentlemen scored 129 and 169, the eleven 133 and 298, winning by 133 runs.

June 8.—Death of Mr. Alderman Sylvester, in the 65th year of his age. He was elected Councillor in 1845, and in 1863 was raised to the aldermanic bench in the place of Mr. F. Judd, deceased. Interred in the Church Cemetery, on the 13th.

June 17.—Mr. J. Barber elected Alderman in the place of 1871 the late Alderman Sylvester.

June 26, 27, & 28.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Yorkshire. The home team comprised T. Bignall, F. Wild, R. Daft, W. Oscroft, J. Selby, M. M'Intyre, A. Shaw, W. M'Intyre, S. Biddulph, F. H. Farrands, and J. C. Shaw. The visitors scored 117 and 101, Notts. 78 and 142 for the loss of six wickets.

June 27—July 1.—Grand exhibition of the Royal Horticultural Society held in Nottingham Park. There were 2,000 entries of plants, 1,050 entries of cut blooms, and the finest collection of vegetables ever exhibited in Nottingham. One of the chief attractions was a model garden, which was in an astonishingly large tent, having three arches and covering a great space of ground. The plan of the garden was of the most singular character. The outer or leading path was bold and simple, but the winding walks in the centre formed a labyrinth of a puzzling kind. The flowers were set to the best advantage, all the specimens being harmoniously planted on terraced benches composed of real earth rising one above another, and forming a rare spectacle of natural grandeur. On the last day (Saturday) there was a show of cut roses by the St. Ann's Floral Society, when for beauty of form and colour, if not for size, the display from the Hunger-hills by our artizans has not been surpassed. During the day from 15,000 to 16,000 persons were present, and the receipts during the five days amounted to £2,000.

July 25.—Opening of the new Trent Bridge by the Mayor, J. Manning, Esq. In November, 1867, instructions having been given to Mr. M. O. Tarbotton, C.E., to prepare plans and estimates for a new bridge, these plans, involving an outlay of £31,000, were, in April, 1868, submitted to the Town Council, at a special meeting, and unanimously agreed to; and in the early part of September, 1868, the first sod was turned on the south side of the river. The total length of the bridge is about 760 feet from the north abutment to the end of the south approach on the London-road, the clear width between the parapets is 40 feet, and from face to face of the abutments 48 feet 8 inches, being practically the same width as Southwark and Waterloo Bridges, London. The height of the roadway above the summer water level of the Trent is 27 feet, and there are two footpaths each 7 feet wide, with a carriage-way 26 feet wide, capable of accommodating easily three lines of carriages. The new bridge consists of three main arches or spans, each 100 feet wide in the clear, one north flood and hauling path arch, 10 feet span, and three south flood arches, 18 feet, 15 feet, and 12 feet wide respectively. The surface of the bridge is quite level, and the north approach has a gradient of 1 in 47, and the south 1 in 34. The material of the large main arches is cast iron, and each arch has eight ribs or girders, which weigh about 200 tons. These ribs sustain transverse wrought iron girders,

- 1871 which are bolted thereto, and which in turn carry the roadway sheet; the latter is formed of wrought iron curved plates and Mallett's buckled plates, all of which are rivetted together and to T and angle bearers and straps. Every arch has strong bracing frames to connect the several ribs together, and all the joints of the ironwork are planed true and connected by iron pins or bolts, which were previously turned smooth and fitted into holes correspondingly drilled through the ironwork. The face ribs are of an ornamental character, and are moulded on the lower edges and on the upper lines of the arches. The spandrils are deeply recessed and moulded, and contain medallions of cast iron fitted within geometric cusplings, which are enclosed in moulded circles or tracery. The designs for the enrichments vary in each compartment both in size and detail—these were all modelled and prepared by Messrs. Farmer & Brindley, London, sculptors, but cast at Derby. Over the arches and spandrils, an ornamental moulded cornice, of cast iron, runs from pier to pier, and the lowest part embraces a rich filling of conventional foliage, composed of leaves and lilies, also of cast iron. The whole is surmounted by the parapet, which is of geometric and continuous design formed of cast iron openwork, with pateras of flowers at the intersections of the curved lines. The top member is moulded, and the lamp standards, for lighting the bridge, are designed as permanent features to correspond with the parapets, and form an integral part thereof. The parapets of the north and south approaches, over the stone arches, are of similar design and construction to those over the iron arches; the lamp standards, for lighting the approaches, are dwarf columns, fixed upon stone pillars. All the lamps are globes in one piece of glass, with copper finials and mountings, and supplied with gas in the usual manner. In connection with the above-described works, extensive alterations were effected on the banks of the river. The old Town Arms inn was partly taken down, and a large new hotel, of brick and stone, erected in its place. The house and shop of the adjoining corn mill were rebuilt. The eight coats of arms sculptured on the abutments of the new bridge typify some of the principal events which connect the old bridge and the town of Nottingham with the general history of the country, and were supplied by Thomas Close, Esq., J.P., F.S.A. The shields were carved and prepared by Mr. W. P. Smith, of Nottingham, from sketches by Miss Hine, under the immediate supervision of Mr. Close, who also contributed the following description:—"The first shield exhibits the arms of William I., King of England and Duke of Normandy. The next shield is that of King John. The third shield is that of King Edward III. The fourth shield shews the arms of David II., King of Scotland. The fifth shield, on the eastern side of the bridge, presents the arms of King Richard II. The next is the inescutcheon of King Richard III., and of his wife Anne Nevill. The seventh is the armorial bearings of King Charles I. France

and England. The last is the arms of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, marshalled with those of her husband, Prince Albert of Saxe-Cobourg and Gotha."*

July 27 & 28.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Surrey. The home team were the same as in the Yorkshire match, with the exception of G. Wootton in place of F. H. Farranda. The visitors scored 48 and 63, Notts. 168, winning by an innings and 57 runs.

August 3, 4, & 5.—Cricket match at Clifton, Bristol, between eleven of Notts. composed of T. Bignall, F. Wild, W. Oscroft, R. Daft, J. Selby, Mr. R. Tolley, A. Shaw, W. Elliott, W. M'Intyre, S. Biddulph, and J. C. Shaw, and eleven of Gloucestershire. The home team scored 224 and 195, the visitors 173 and 125 for the loss of four wickets. The match was drawn.

August 10, 11, & 12.—Return cricket match at Kennington Oval, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Surrey. Our team were the same as played in the last match, with the exception of M. M'Intyre in place of W. Oscroft. Surrey scored 83 and 230, Notts. 272 and 42 without the loss of a wicket.

August 21, 22, & 23.—Return cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Gloucestershire and eleven of Notts. The home team comprised T. Bignall, F. Wild, Mr. G. M. Royle, R. Daft, Mr. W. Williams, J. Selby, Mr. R. Tolley, A. Shaw, W. M'Intyre, S. Biddulph, and J. C. Shaw. The visitors scored 147 and 217, Notts. 364 and 1, winning by ten wickets. In the second innings of Gloucestershire Mr. W. G. Grace compiled 116 runs, being the first "century" obtained on this ground in a county match.

August 28, 29, & 30.—Return cricket match at Bramall-lane ground, between eleven of Yorkshire and the following eleven of Notts. :—T. Bignall, F. Wild, W. Oscroft, R. Daft, Mr. R. Tolley, J. Selby, A. Shaw, W. M'Intyre, S. Biddulph, F. H. Farranda, and J. C. Shaw. Notts. scored 153 and 77, Yorkshire 171 and 199, winning by 140 runs.

September 14.—Death of the Duchess of St. Albans, at her metropolitan residence, in the 22nd year of her age, of puerperal fever. The Duchess was the daughter of General Sir Charles Grey. She was married in the year 1867, and had just given birth to her third child. All who were admitted to the honour of her acquaintance could not fail to remember the extraordinary grace of manner and sweetness of temper which distinguished her, even amongst the most gifted of her contemporaries. Her remains were removed from London to Bestwood on the 24th, and were interred the following day in the family vault in Bestwood churchyard.

October 25.—Died at his residence, the Police Office, Thomas Wakefield, Mayor's Sergeant, Inspector of Weights and Measures, and Billet Master of Nottingham. Mr. Wakefield served the

* For an account of the old Trent Bridge, see p. 375.

- 1871 office of Sheriff in the year 1815, and from this time he took a great interest in the affairs of the town. On the Municipal Reform Act coming into operation in 1835, he was elected Councillor for St. Ann's Ward, and at the first meeting of the Council he was chosen Mayor, which honour was again accorded to him in 1842. In the year 1837 the public services of Mr. Wakefield were acknowledged by the presentation of a service of plate of the value of £400, subscribed for by men of all parties. He continued to represent St. Ann's Ward in the Council until he became involved in difficulties, through his connection with the colliery enterprises at Cinder Hill and Babbington, in which he lost the considerable fortune which he had inherited. On the office of Mayor's Sergeant becoming vacant by the death of Mr. Barnes, he was selected to fill the post, which he held until his death. Mr. Wakefield at one time contributed many articles to the *Nottingham Mercury*, of which he was one of the proprietors.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. *St. Ann's Ward*, T. R. Starey 905, E. Massey 905, T. Bentley 781, W. Pare 768; *Byron*, J. Wainman 431, Wm. Gregory 430, J. Gregg 178, J. Brookes 174; *Castle*, J. S. R. Annibal and G. Smith; *Exchange*, J. S. Gilpin 616, C. Barnes 616, W. Greaves 300, H. Hind 298; *St. Mary's*, G. Belk 438, W. Skinner 202, R. Earwaker 170; *Park*, W. Clark 230, J. Thompson 229, Miller 149; *Sherwood*, J. S. Butler 876, E. Goldschmidt 826, J. Comyn 618, B. H. Cockayne 522, T. Simpson 41.

November 9.—Mr. W. G. Ward appointed Mayor; Mr. C. A. Booth, Sheriff; and the following Aldermen were re-elected: Messrs. W. Enfield, L. Hardy, T. Herbert, J. Oldknow, J. Barber, W. Vickers, and W. Knight.

1872.

- 1872 *January 20.*—Opening of the schools in Alfred-street North in connection with St. Andrew's church. The girls' school-room, 50 feet by 20, and a school-room for infants, 65 feet by 20, are on the ground floor, and the boys' school, 65 feet by 20, is on the first floor. They are all 14 feet high, and have spacious classrooms attached.

January 25.—As an illustration of the value of building sites in the centre of Nottingham, the following is extracted from the *Nottingham Journal*, of January 27th, 1872:—"Lot 6 of the freehold land of the late Miss Frost, sold by auction by Mr. J. M. Pott, consisting of a house, yard, stabling, and land, in Thurland-street, and containing 448 yards, was knocked down to Mr. Smith, a capitalist from London, for £14 per square yard, the total purchase money amounting to £6,272. The previous bid was £13 17s. 6d. per yard, and was made on behalf of the

Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Banking Company, whose premises it adjoins." In consequence of the purchaser having discovered that there were conditions of which he was not aware, he refused to complete, and the land was subsequently sold for under £10 per yard.

January 26.—The lands adjoining the river Trent and the Nottingham Meadows again deeply flooded.

February 2.—In making extensive alterations at the back of the White Swan inn, Beastmarket-hill, seven human skeletons were found at a depth of from five to seven feet; four or five were thought to be those of females. This is another proof of the existence of the monastery of the White Friars or Carmelites mentioned in page 55.

February 17.—Serious fire in the lace warehouse of Mr. Edwards, St. Mary's-gate, by which the premises were gutted, and Mr. Egginton's warehouse, which adjoined, was much damaged. The loss was estimated at from £3,000 to £4,000.

February 23.—The Hon. G. E. M. Monckton elected for North Notts. in the room of the late speaker, Mr. J. E. Denison, who had been created Lord Ossington. There was a strong opposition, and at the close of the poll the Sheriff's return was, the Hon. G. E. M. Monckton, 2,580; R. Laycock, Esq., 1,524.

February 27.—The dyeing and finishing works of Mr. Reuben Weldon, situated in the Nottingham Meadows, burnt down. Mr. Weldon left the premises shortly before eight in the evening, apparently safe; but soon afterwards flames were seen issuing from it, and it being a wooden building in a very short time it was completely destroyed. The building was from forty to fifty yards long, and Mr. Weldon not being insured his loss was great.

March 9.—Destructive fire at the hosiery factory of Messrs. I. & R. Morley, Manvers-street, Sneinton, causing damage to the amount of at least £10,000. The fire was not confined to the premises occupied by Messrs. Morley, a portion of the building which was destroyed being tenanted by Mr. Woodruffe, silk throwster, whose goods and machines were rendered useless by the action of fire and water. Another portion was in the occupation of Messrs. Wilford & Bentley, whose stock of lace goods suffered severely.

April 4.—Mr. F. Stevenson elected Councillor for Park Ward in the room of Mr. J. Thompson, deceased.

April 12.—Mr. J. A. Clarke elected Councillor for Sherwood Ward to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. J. S. Butler, which occurred on the 31st of March.

April.—Formal inauguration of the Museum of Natural History, Wheeler-gate, as a free institution.

May 20.—Opening of the Midland Counties Fine Art Exhibition in connection with South Kensington Museum, in the Exchange Hall. It contained specimens of lace, pottery, and earthenware manufactures from a very early date, and art and

1872

industrial objects from South Kensington, which were changed from time to time. There were also many valuable works of art from private individuals in the town and neighbourhood. It was removed to the Castle in 1878.

June 27, 28, & 29.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Yorkshire and eleven of Notts. The home team comprised T. Bignall, W. Oscroft, F. Wild, R. Daft, J. Selby, M. M'Intyre, H. Reynolds, A. Shaw, S. Biddulph, F. Morley, and J. C. Shaw, who scored 102 and 161, Yorkshire 76 and 137. Notts. won by 50 runs.

July 11 & 12.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between the same eleven of Notts. and eleven of Surrey. Rain fell on Thursday and prevented any play, and on Friday, about half-past three, when Notts. had scored 180 for the loss of three wickets, rain again fell, in consequence of which the game was abandoned.

July 12.—A thunderstorm of almost unequalled magnitude broke over Nottingham and the locality, spreading fear and dismay amongst the inhabitants to an alarming extent. So heavy was the storm of hail and rain that persons were drenched through in less than half a minute. The immense body of water caused serious damage in the lower parts of the town, many houses being flooded, and the fire engines were engaged several hours in pumping the water from the cellars of the Lord Nelson, in Pump-street, and many other houses. At the junction of St. Ann's Well-road and Alfred-street the force of water was so great that the main sewer not being able to carry it away, the manhole was burst open and the water spouted as high as the houses for some time. The storm raged with great fierceness in the vicinity of the Trent-bridge, particularly on the cricket ground, where the match Notts. v. Surrey was being played. About half-past three o'clock large drops of rain fell, accompanied by thunder and vivid flashes of lightning, causing the spectators to rush for shelter. Scarcely had they done so, when down came an admixture of hail and rain with such terrific force that it was almost impossible to stand against it. All the tents were thrown to the ground, with the exception of one small one, the canvass of which was split in two. The lightning struck various places in and about the town, but no lives were lost.

July 16.—The engine-house and workshops of Mr. E. Blundell, joiner, Waterway-street, destroyed by fire. The damage was estimated at £200.

July 19.—The "Claimant" made his first appearance in Nottingham, and attended a meeting at the Mechanics' Hall, of which Mr. Titus Beecroft was the chairman.

July 30.—Great Horse Show held in a large field near the Trent-bridge ground, at which there were 340 entries, and prizes to the amount of £700 were awarded.

August 1, 2, & 3.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Gloucestershire and the same eleven of Notts.,

who scored 489, F. Wild contributing 104, and J. Selby (not out) 128, being the second and third "centuries" obtained on this ground in a county match. Gloucester made 139. The match was drawn. 1872

August 10.—The Licensing Act authorising the closing of public houses at 10 or 11 o'clock at the justices' discretion, received the Royal assent, and came into operation immediately.

August 12.—Test election at the Municipal Offices to prove the working of the new act for taking the votes at the Municipal and Parliamentary elections by ballot.

August 12, 13, & 14.—Return cricket match at Kennington Oval, between eleven of Surrey and the following eleven of Notts.: T. Bignall, W. Oscroft, F. Wild, R. Daft, J. Selby, H. Reynolds, T. Barnes, J. Seaton, M. M'Intyre, F. Morley, and J. C. Shaw, who scored 209 and 107 for eight wickets, Surrey 60 and 315. The match was drawn.

August 19, 20, & 21.—Return cricket match at Sheffield, between eleven of Yorkshire and the same eleven of Notts. Our team scored 147 and 81 for the loss of seven wickets, Yorkshire 160 and 156. The match was drawn.

August 22.—Several publicans fined at the borough Police Court for infringing the new licensing law.

August 22, 23, & 24.—Return cricket match at Clifton, Bristol, between eleven of Gloucestershire and the same eleven of Notts. Gloucestershire scored 317 and 167 for four wickets; Dr. E. M. Grace making 108, and Mr. G. F. Grace 115 and 72 not out in either innings, Notts., first innings, 233, of which Daft made 92 not out. The match was drawn.

August 29.—Review of the Robin Hood Rifles at Bulwell, by Colonel Herbert, when the total strength present was 731. After the review, the men marched to an adjoining field, where a dinner had been provided in a large marque. On the return home a shocking accident occurred to Sergeant-Major Thompson. The regiment was marched down to the rails in the usual manner, in command of Captain Starey, the senior captain. The train not having arrived, the march was continued, in order to meet it at Bulwell station; but when about half the men had crossed, the train came up, and the rear companies were stopped, and got into the train, which then went back. The front companies reached the station first, and on the arrival of the train, there was a slight movement of pressing forward to secure seats, before it had quite stopped, and Thompson, who was standing in front of the men, somehow got between the platform and the footstep of the carriage. The regimental surgeons were promptly in attendance, but it was found that both legs were so much shattered as to render amputation necessary; he was therefore removed as quickly as possible to the General Hospital, Nottingham, where the operation was performed; but the shock and the loss of blood had been so great that he died about midnight. He was buried in the Church Cemetery on September 3rd, with full military honours.

1872 *October 2, 3, 4, & 5.*—National Dog Show held in a spacious wooden building erected in the Market-place, at which there were about 1,000 dogs entered in 55 classes. The prizes were 55 silver cups and £500 in money.

October 3.—Memorial stone of the Congregational chapel, Queen's walk, laid by Arthur Wells, Esq.

October 24.—The river Trent again overflowed its banks, causing serious inconvenience to the inhabitants of the lower portions of the Meadows, many of the houses being flooded. This was the highest flood since 1869.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. This was the first occasion on which the Ballot Act was brought into operation. There were 65 nominations for the seven wards, as follows:—*St. Ann's*, 17 nominations; T. Bentley and D. W. Heath elected. *Byron*, 6 nominations; H. Egginton and Walter Gregory, elected; *Castle*, 6 nominations; H. W. Baines and John Brown elected; *Exchange*, 4 nominations; Joseph Thompson and William Wright elected. *St. Mary's*, 5 nominations; T. Adams and S. Turner elected. *Park*, 20 nominations; T. Bladon and William Foster elected. *Sherwood*, 8 nominations; W. G. Ward and W. Ford elected. On a scrutiny of the ballot papers W. Ford and John Comyn were found to have polled an equal number of votes, and the presiding Alderman, Mr. Vickers, availed himself of his privilege of giving a casting vote, recording it in favour of Mr. Ford.

November 9.—Mr. William Foster appointed Mayor; Mr. G. Trevitt, Sheriff.

November 11.—Death of Lieut.-Colonel Holden, of Nuttall Temple, for many years commanding officer of the South Notts. Yeomanry Cavalry. He was president of the Nottingham and Notts. Auxiliary of the British and Foreign Bible Society until his death. He 67 years of age, having been born on the 24th of July, 1805. His remains were interred on the 19th in the family vault at Nuttall.

December 15.—Henry Gamble Blagrove, one of the most eminent English violinists, died in London. He was the son of a teacher of music residing in Nottingham, in which town he was born in October, 1811. At the early age of four years Blagrove received lessons on the violin from his father, and a year later he performed in public. When only six years old (1817) his father took him to the metropolis, where young Blagrove played in a piece called *The Lilliputians*. This precocious child afterwards played before the public daily at the Exhibition Rooms, Spring Gardens. In 1821, at the age of ten years, he received lessons from Spagnoletti. He became one of the first pupils of the Royal Academy of Music, which was opened in 1823, his tutor being Francois Cramer; and in 1824 he received a silver medal for his proficiency. When the private band of Queen Adelaide was formed in 1830, young Blagrove was appointed one of its members, a position which he retained for several years. Whilst a member

he, in 1833, proceeded to Germany to enable him to take lessons on the violin from the eminent composer Dr. Louis Spöhr, (b. 1784, d. 1859), under whose tuition he remained until the November of the following year. For a period of over thirty years Blagrove was a concerto player, and leader in all the best orchestras. After a lingering illness he passed away, December 15th, 1872, at the age of 61 years.—J. P. B. 1872

December 20.—Regimental prizes presented to the Robin Hood Rifles by Lady Belper.

December 25.—Destructive fire at the Wesleyan chapel, Mansfield-road. It appeared to have originated in the vestry after the morning service, and had worked its way to the pulpit and gallery, much of which was destroyed. The damage was estimated at £300.

1873.

March 6.—Six undenominational members of the School Board resigned. There had been a strong endeavour on the part of the unsectarian party on the board to have three board schools erected in various quarters of the town, which had been as strongly opposed by the other side. A vacancy having occurred by the resignation of Dr. Marsh, the election of his successor was made to turn on the question whether the rates of the town should be charged with this expenditure; the result being the return of the denominationalist candidate, Mr. M. Mellers, by a large majority. The unsectarian members, taking this vote as an indication of change in the wishes of the ratepayers with regard to the carrying out of the Education Act, resigned in a body. The triennial election of the whole board being due in a few months their places were not filled up till then. 1873

March 10.—Died at his residence, Low-pavement, in his 72nd year, Alderman Wm. Enfield. The deceased gentleman succeeded his father in the office of Town Clerk in 1845, which position he occupied until his resignation in 1870. At the first opportunity he was appointed Alderman, in recognition of the services he had rendered in his official capacity. Mr. Enfield took great interest in the charitable institutions of the town, beside which his private benevolence extended over a very wide field.

April 22.—Consecration of St. Thomas's church, Park-row, by the Bishop of Lincoln. The transformation of this building, formerly a Methodist chapel, was effected by extensive alterations in the interior; the substitution of painted for plain glass in the windows; and the elaborate decoration of the walls and ceiling by Mr. G. Sparrow, churchwarden, who liberally presented the same to the church.

May 16.—Foundation stone of Gunthorpe Bridge over the Trent laid by Earl Manvers. The bridge is built chiefly of stone

1873 taken from the old Trent Bridge, at Nottingham, and was designed by Mr. M. O. Tarbotton.

May 16.—Death of Thomas Adams, Esq., J.P., aged 66 years, principal of the firm of T. Adams & Co., lace manufacturers. A large stained glass window to his memory has been placed in the western end of St. Mary's church.

June 12, 13, & 14.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Yorkshire, who scored 65 and 170. The home team scored 355 (of which R. Daft contributed 161) winning by an innings and 123 runs. In all county matches this season Notts. was represented by the following ten:—T. Bignall, F. Wild, W. Oscroft, R. Daft, M. M'Intyre, J. Selby, A. Shaw, S. Biddulph, F. Morley, and J. C. Shaw, J. Wheeler in this match making up the eleven.

June 16.—Memorial stones of Tennyson-street Wesleyan chapel laid by the Mayor of Nottingham (Mr. W. Foster); Mr. Hoyles, of Nottingham; Mr. Reynolds, of London; and Mr. Joseph Ryder, of London. The chapel will seat 1,000 persons, the sittings being arranged in the form of an amphitheatre. Mr. Collyer, of Thurland-street, was the architect, and it was built by Mr. W. Vickers, of Queen's-road, at a cost of upwards of £5,000.

July 10 & 11.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between the before-mentioned ten, with Mr. G. M. Royle, and eleven of Surrey. Our team scored 188 and 74 for the loss of four wickets, Surrey 93 and 168. Notts. won by six wickets.

July 21, 22, & 23.—Return cricket match at Kennington Oval, between the Notts. ten, with Mr. C. Clifton, and eleven of Surrey, who scored 102 and 113. Notts. scored 140 and 194, being again victorious by 119 runs.

July 23.—Inspection of the Robin Hood Rifles, on Bulwell Forest, by Colonel Rickman, the muster being 772 of all ranks.

August 7, 8, & 9.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between the home ten, with W. Williams, Esq., and eleven of Sussex, who scored 170 and 86. Notts. scored 212 and 45 for the loss of one wicket, winning by nine wickets.

August 14, 15, & 16.—The Notts. ten, with Mr. C. Clifton, played the return cricket match, at Brighton, against eleven of Sussex, who scored 19 and 96. Notts. scored 101 and 15, with ten wickets to go down.

August 18, 19, & 20.—Return cricket match at Sheffield, between the Notts. ten, with W. Williams, Esq., and eleven of Yorkshire, who scored 102 and 136. Our team scored 79 and 10 in the second innings without the loss of a wicket, when the match was drawn on account of the rain.

September 1.—Foundation stone of the Albert Hall laid by Mrs. John Bayley.

October 13.—Death of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Paget, of Rudington Grange. The deceased, with Miss Tebbutt, Mrs. Paget's sister, were staying at Filey, and this afternoon went on the rocks

near Filey Brigg. Whilst sitting there, a huge wave broke over them, and threw them into the sea. A girl who was near ran to the rescue, and by holding on to a piece of sea-weed reached Miss Tebbutt, and brought her safely ashore; Mr. and Mrs. Paget were carried away by the wave, and their bodies were never recovered.

Mr. Paget had just completed his 74th year, having been born on September 19th, 1799. In 1839 he was made justice of the peace for the county, and in 1844 he filled the office of High Sheriff. On the elevation of the Hon. E. Strutt to the Upper House, in 1856, Mr. Paget was chosen to succeed him in the representation of the borough, and was again elected in 1857, 1859, and 1861.

To the charitable and educational institutions of the town Mr. Paget was a liberal contributor, and he was also a vice-president of the Mechanics' Institution and the School of Art; indeed, he was always a warm friend of education, and the last occasion on which he appeared in public was the inauguration of the University classes in Nottingham. For some time before the passing of the Education Act he had established on his own estate a system by which the children went on alternate days to school; and the same feeling induced him to accept a seat on the first School Board of the town.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. The whole of the wards were contested, with the following results:—*St. Ann's*, R. A. Sylvester 1,468, J. Hartshorn 1,449, W. Pyatt 1,361, W. Pare 1,321; *Byron*, A. Parker 958, W. Lambert 925, L. Torr 634, J. Brittan 538; *Castle*, R. Cranch 511, H. A. Attenborough 481, J. W. Allcock 313, T. Stevenson 283; *Exchange*, J. Turney 764, R. Dennett 729, T. Dickinson 620, W. R. Brewill 603; *St. Mary's*, W. Nicholls 544, T. Simpson 507, T. W. Elliott 273, A. Fewkes 267; *Park*, C. B. Truman 297, W. A. Blain 296, T. Hill 269, W. G. Johnson 258; *Sherwood*, J. Comyn 1,049, T. Worth 938, J. Chester 817, H. Browne 795.

November 8.—Memorial stones of Unsectarian Schools, at Lenton, laid by A. J. Mundella, Esq., M.P., and Mr. B. Walker. The schools will accommodate 158 boys, 120 girls, and 120 infants, and were estimated to cost £2,200, besides £538 for the land.

November 10.—Alderman J. Howitt appointed Mayor, and Mr. James Carver, Sheriff.

November 22.—School Board election. There was a good deal of excitement, but fewer unauthorized nominations than on the previous occasion. On the official counting up of the votes the Board was found to be composed of the following:—

Mr. T. Bentley	... 11,452	Mr. J. S. Gilpin	... 7,639
Mr. M. Mellers	... 9,050	Mr. E. Goldschmidt	... 7,572
Mr. J. Bayley	... 9,034	Mr. E. Gripper	... 7,442
Mr. W. Hemm	... 8,439	Mr. J. W. Lewis	... 7,387
Mr. W. G. Ward	... 8,369	Rev. J. Dwyer	... 6,915
Mr. H. M. Baines	... 7,904	Dr. Littlewood	... 6,784
Mr. B. Thurlow	... 7,683		

1874 plot of ground, between the Canal and the Leen, known as Gordon's wharf, were destroyed by fire, when four horses and five pigs were burnt to death.

April 8.—Opening of St. Peter's Infants' Schools, in Broad-marsh. They will accommodate 200, and the cost was about £800.

April 15.—Opening of the first set of schools built by the Nottingham School Board, situate in Bath-street. They consist of a boys' school and a girls' school, each having a superficial floor space of 3,200 feet, and an infants' school, having an area of 2,300 superficial feet, and they occupy a space of 2,500 square yards of land fronting to Bath-street and Virginia-street. They will accommodate 300 boys, 300 girls, and 250 infants. Messrs. Evans & Jolley were the architects.

April 23.—Two batteries of the Royal Artillery met at Nottingham, the G Battery, 1st Brigade, *en route* from Shorncliffe to Sheffield, and the K Battery, 14th Brigade, from Mansfield on their way from Newcastle-on-Tyne to Woolwich; each battery consisting of six guns and over one hundred men and eighty horses. The guns were placed in the House of Correction yard, St. John's-street.

April 27.—Mr. John Manning appointed Alderman in the room of Mr. William Wright, deceased.

April.—Ancient pottery, &c., found near Market-street.

May 25 & 26.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. composed of T. Bignall, F. Wild, W. Clarke, Mr. T. Wright, Mr. C. Clifton, R. Daft, J. Lindley, W. Elliott, W. Scotton, F. Morley, and J. Orange, and sixteen of Derbyshire, who scored 163 and 28 for the loss of one wicket. Notts. scored 65 and 125. Derbyshire won by 14 wickets.

June 1.—Pullman cars first introduced on the Midland railway.

June 8, 9, & 10.—Cricket match at Lord's, between M.C.C. and ground and the following eleven of Notts. :—R. Daft, C. Clifton, M. M'Intyre, W. Clarke, A. Shaw, S. Biddulph, F. Morley, F. Wild, T. Bignall, W. Oscroft, and J. C. Shaw, who scored 124 and 88. M.C.C. scored 157 and 56 for the loss of four wickets, winning by six wickets.

June 11, 12, & 13.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Yorkshire and eleven of Notts. Our team were T. Bignall, F. Wild, W. Oscroft, Mr. T. Wright, R. Daft, Mr. C. Clifton, M. M'Intyre, A. Shaw, S. Biddulph, F. Morley, and J. C. Shaw, who scored 104 and 91. Yorkshire 208, winning by an innings and 13 runs.

June 29 & 30.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Surrey. Our team were the same as played in the last match, with the exception of Mr. R. Tolley in place of Mr. C. Clifton. Surrey scored 61 and 120, Notts. 144 and 39 for the loss of two wickets, winning by 8 wickets.

June 29.—Opening of the Unsectarian Schools at Lenton. 1874
The architects were Messrs. F. & R. Booker, and the builder Mr. Cooper.

July 9, & 10.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Notts. and eleven of Sussex. The home team, which was the same as in the last match, scored 289, of which R. Daft contributed 102. Sussex scored 86 and 93, being defeated by an innings and 110 runs.

July 13, 14, & 15.—Cricket match at Prince's ground, between the following eleven of Notts.:—F. Wild, T. Bignall, W. Oscroft, R. Daft, Mr. R. Tolley, M. M'Intyre, J. Oscroft, A. Shaw, S. Biddulph, F. Morley, and J. C. Shaw, who scored 178 and 142, and eleven of Middlesex, who scored 130 and 169, leaving Notts. the victors by 11 runs.

July 30 & 31.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, for the benefit of J. Jackson, between the following eleven of Notts.: W. Oscroft, Mr. C. Clifton, Mr. T. Wright, R. Daft, Mr. R. Tolley, M. M'Intyre, A. Shaw, F. Wild, S. Biddulph, F. Morley, and J. C. Shaw, and eleven of M.C.C. and ground, who scored 91 and 118. The home team scored 156 and 56 for the loss of one wicket, winning by nine wickets.

August 1.—The above benefit match was continued on Saturday, by the same Notts. eleven playing the next fifteen. The eleven had lost six wickets for 220 runs, when the stumps were drawn.

August 6.—Inspection of the Robin Hood Rifles on Bulwell Forest, when 702 of all ranks were present.

August 10, 11, & 12.—Return cricket match at Kennington Oval, between eleven of Surrey and the same eleven of Notts. Surrey scored 100 and 56, our team 44 and 114, winning by one wicket. This well-contested match will be long remembered, if only for the fact that it is the first in which Alfred Shaw has played without being put on to bowl.

August 11.—Opening of the New Connexion chapel and schools (the latter forming the ground floor), Parliament-street. The chapel has been built on the site of the former one at the junction of Parliament-street and George-street. It is in the Gothic style of architecture, and has a tower and spire rising to the height of about one hundred feet. The estimated cost of the chapel and schools was about £5,000. The architect was Mr. R. C. Sutton, and the contractor Mr. Edwin Marshall, of Lenton.

August 14 & 15.—Return cricket match at Brighton, between the same eleven of Notts., who scored 73 and 89, and eleven of Sussex, who scored 124 and 41 with seven wickets to fall.

August 17, 18, & 19.—Return cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between the following eleven of Notts.:—T. Bignall, F. Wild, M. M'Intyre, R. Daft, W. Clarke, J. Oscroft, A. Shaw, Mr. C. Clifton, S. Biddulph, F. Morley, and

1874 217 and 99, and eleven of Middlesex, who scored 146 and 100, leaving the home team victors by 70 runs.

August 22.—About half-past two in the morning the watchman employed at the hosiery factory of Messrs. I. & R. Morley, Manvers-street, in passing through the yard, saw smoke but no flame issuing from a room in the centre of a block immediately over the cotton cellar. He at once gave an alarm, which soon brought a body of willing hands together, and the hose reel belonging to the factory was immediately put in operation; but to the surprise of all present, there was scarcely any water in the cistern which was kept on the premises to be ready in case of fire. In the meantime several messengers had gone for the engines, and about fifteen minutes to three a body of men set out with the hose reels, followed immediately by the steam fire engine, the manual engines being sent afterwards in quick succession; but by this time the flames had got fairly hold of the middle of the building where they had originated, and passing along the south side had become totally unmanageable. At about 3.15 a large portion of the walls and floors fell, followed about four o'clock by the whole of the remaining walls and roof of Manvers-street portion. Some idea of the crash may be formed, when it is stated that the noise was heard as far as Radford and the surrounding villages. The sight of the ruins when viewed from the Southwell-road end of Manvers-street was almost beyond description. Of the front, 200 yards long, nothing remained but an immense mass of bricks, iron, and wood, intermingled with burnt remnants of hosiery goods. This was by far the greatest fire that has occurred in Nottingham in the memory of man, not excepting the Castle, the damage being estimated at £100,000.

August 24, 25, & 26.—Return cricket match at Sheffield, between eleven of Yorkshire, who scored 115 and 251, and the following eleven of Notts.:—F. Wild, T. Bignall, Mr. T. Wright, R. Daft, M. M'Intyre, J. Oscroft, A. Shaw, W. Clarke, S. Biddulph, F. Morley, and J. C. Shaw, who scored 77 and 101, losing by 188 runs.

October 15.—The memorial stone of the Unitarian church, High-Pavement, Nottingham, laid by the Mayor of Leicester (Mr. Kempson).

November 2.—The Municipal elections. The whole of the seven wards were contested with the following results:—*St. Ann's*, E. Massey 1,303, J. Trivett 1,210, W. Pyatt 1,160, J. P. Wood 1,022; *Byron*, J. Crossland 1,000, T. Tutin 998, T. Dickinson 972, N. Pratt 947; *Castle*, G. Smith 550, J. S. R. Annibal 531, J. B. Hutchinson 443, W. J. Rorke 395; *Exchange*, J. S. Gilpin 732, C. Barnes 712, W. Harris 554, D. Higham 514; *St. Mary's*, J. E. Minnitt 410, W. Whitehead 340, G. Belk 321, W. Skinner 318, W. Whitehead, Platt-street, 53; *Park*, W. Clark 373, F. Stevenson 352, M. I. Preston 333; *Sherwood*, J. A. Clarke 1,054, E. Goldschmidt 1,031, W. R. Brewill 873, J. Chester 842.

November 9.—Mr. Wm. Lambert appointed Mayor; Mr. 1874
Wm. Sulley, Sheriff; and the following Aldermen were elected :—
Messrs. J. Reckless, J. Howitt, T. Cullen, J. L. Thackeray, W.
Knight, W. Foster, and W. G. Ward.

November 12.—Dr. Bagshawe, one of the Roman Catholic
priests of the Oratory at Brompton, was consecrated Bishop of
Nottingham, by Archbishop Manning, assisted by the Bishops of
Northampton, Salford, Clifton, and Southwark.

December 18.—Regimental prizes presented to the Robin
Hood Rifles by the Mayor (Captain Wm. Lambert).

The Riding School, which had been much enlarged, opened
as the Robin Hood Rifles' Drill Hall; Heathcote-street was also
formed this year.

1875.

January.—During this month the following gentlemen were 1875
appointed by the Lord Chancellor Magistrates of the borough of
Nottingham :—Messrs. J. Brown, R. Evans, T. Forman, H.
Heymann, W. Lambert, J. Littlewood, J. P. Cox, T. R. Starey,
and H. Taylor.

January 3.—Serious fire at the lace warehouse of Mr.
Howitt, Stoney-street.

January 18.—Opening of St. Patrick's Roman Catholic
schools, London-road, by the Bishop of the diocese, Dr. Bagshawe.

January 24.—Nottingham and neighbourhood visited by a
gale, which did much damage.

January 25.—Lieut.-Colonel C. I. Wright resigned the com-
mand of the Robin Hood Rifles, which he had held for fifteen
years, on account of ill health. He was succeeded by Charles
Seely, junr., Esq., who had for some years held a commission in
the Mansfield corps.

February 1.—Mr. R. Enfield read a communication to the
Town Council announcing an anonymous gift of £10,000 for the
endowment of university lectureships in Nottingham, on certain
stipulated conditions. A special committee was appointed by the
council to consider the matter.

March 4.—Presentation at the Town Hall, Newark, of a
purse of £525 and an illuminated address to Canon Griffin, of
Newark, who, for upwards of 30 years, had been connected with
the Roman Catholic cathedral of St. Barnabas, Nottingham, a
large number of the subscribers to the testimonial from Notting-
ham being present.

May 10.—The Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, accompanied by
F. Ouvry, Esq., solicitor to the Park estates; met the Mayor, the

- 1875 Vicar of St. Mary's, Mr. T. C. Hine, the committee of the Castle Museum project, and other influential gentlemen of the town, at the Drill Hall, at the Castle, when plans for the restoration of the building and its adaptation to the purposes of the museum were exhibited and discussed.

May 11.—Mr. Gladstone felled a tree in Nottingham Park 5½ feet in circumference.

May 12.—The Lord Bishop of Lincoln, Dr. Wordsworth, delivered a lecture on the true character and functions of the arts of painting, architecture, and sculpture, in St. Mary's church, Nottingham.

May 17, 18, & 19.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between the following eleven of Notts.:—W. Scotton, W. Oscroft, A. Shrewsbury, Mr. W. Williams, junr., R. Daft, M. M'Intyre, J. Selby, H. Reynolds, W. Clarke, A. Anthony, and J. C. Shaw, and eleven of Derbyshire, who scored 125 and 122. The home team scored 135 and 205, winning by 93 runs.

May 31 & June 1 & 2.—Cricket match at Sheffield, between eleven of Yorkshire, who scored 89 and 107, and the following eleven of Notts.:—W. Oscroft, F. Wild, A. Shrewsbury, R. Daft, M. M'Intyre, J. Selby, H. Reynolds, A. Shaw, W. Clarke, A. Anthony, and F. Morley, who scored 84 and 115 for the loss of four wickets.

June 10, 11, & 12.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between the same eleven of Notts., with the exception of Mr. W. Williams, junr., and S. Biddulph in place of W. Clarke and A. Anthony, who scored 49 and 216, and eleven of Surrey, who scored 33 and 83 for the loss of seven wickets, when the match was drawn much in favour of Notts.

June 24.—Public opening of Gunthorpe bridge. The abutments are of stone, resting upon a concrete foundation. The total span of the bridge between the abutments is 350 feet, divided into one opening of 100 feet, and five of 50 feet each, and this space is crossed in the first place by a pair of girders of 100 feet span, resting on the north abutment at one end, and on a pair of cast iron cylinders at the other. These cylinders are 6 feet in diameter, sunk into the rock in the deepest part of the stream, and filled with Portland cement concrete. After this are five pairs of girders, each of the length of 50 feet, supported by cast iron columns, the lower parts of which are 2 feet in diameter, and are screwed through the gravel bed of the river into the rock, the upper portion being 14 inches in diameter and braced together with wrought iron struts and girders. The girders are all of wrought iron, and so secured together as to form a continuous girder. The bridge will be capable of sustaining the heaviest traffic that is ever likely to arise in the neighbourhood. It was designed by M. O. Tarbotton, M.Inst.C.E., and Mr. Smart was the contractor for the masonry.

June 28, 29, & 30.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, for the benefit of R. C. Tinley, between eleven of the North and

eleven of the South, who scored 146 and 111. The North scored 158 and 52 for the loss of four wickets, when the match was drawn. 1875

July 8.—Grand Rose Show in the Arboretum, being the first annual exhibition of the Nottingham and Midland Counties Rose Show. Many fine specimens of every species of floriculture were also sent by the best exhibitors in England. In the course of the day there was a highly influential gathering, many of the county families being present. The magnificent show, the beauty of the grounds, and the delightful music discoursed by the band of the Grenadier Guards, under the leadership of Mr. Dan Godfrey, could not fail to give satisfaction to the 5,000 visitors.

July 12, 13, & 14.—Cricket match at Prince's ground, between eleven of Middlesex and the same eleven of Notts. who played Surrey, with the exception of W. Smith, Esq., instead of Mr. W. Williams. Notts. scored 139 and 129, Middlesex 201 in their first innings. The match was drawn owing to rain.

July 23.—In consequence of the immense quantity of rain the river Trent overflowed its banks to such an extent as to be unprecedented at this season of the year, many of the houses lying south of the Midland railway being inundated. This flood was of the same height as that of 1869, and 18 inches lower than that of 1852.

July 29, 30, & 31.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Gloucestershire, who scored 110 and 121, and the following eleven of Notts:—W. Oscroft, A. Shrewsbury, J. Selby, R. Daft, F. Wild, M. M'Intyre, J. Mills, A. Shaw, W. Barnes, W. Clarke, and F. Morley, who scored 177 and 66 for the loss of seven wickets. Notts. won by three wickets.

August 7.—Nottingham again visited by a most violent thunder storm.

August 9, 10, & 11.—Return cricket match at Derby, between eleven of that county, who scored 138 and 66, and the Notts. eleven, with Mr. R. Tolley in the room of J. Mills. The Notts. team scored 179 and 142, of which F. Wild contributed 93 and 40, winning by 117 runs.

August 12, 13, & 14.—Return cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between eleven of Middlesex, who scored 102 and 59, and the Notts. eleven, with H. Reynolds instead of Mr. R. Tolley. The home team won in one innings by 2 runs, they having scored 163 runs.

August 16, 17, & 18.—Return cricket match at Clifton College ground, between the same eleven of Notts. and eleven of Gloucestershire, who scored 289 in their first and only innings. Notts. scored 192 and 21 for the loss of one wicket, when the match was drawn. W. G. Grace scored 119 and F. Townsend 84.

August 23, 24, & 25.—Return cricket match at Kennington Oval, between eleven of Surrey, who scored 68 and 194, and the

1875 Notts. eleven, with Mr. R. Tolley in place of H. Reynolds. Our team scored 278, winning by an innings and 16 runs.

August 26, 27, & 28.—Return cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between the eleven of Notts., with H. Reynolds in the room of Mr. R. Tolley, and eleven of Yorkshire, who scored 49 and 183. Notts. scored 87 and 58 losing by 87 runs.

September 13.—Death of Alderman Chatwin, aged 65 years. Interred on the 17th.

September 29.—First election of School Board for Radford, and first election by ballot in the parish. The whole of the seats at the board, which consists of nine members, were secured by unsectarian and voluntary candidates.

October 22.—The greatest flood that has occurred in this century at Nottingham reached its height shortly before midnight, and, as viewed from the terrace of the Castle, was a scene never to be forgotten. Turn which way you would, the south side of town resembled a great sea, with here and there trees, factories, or blocks of houses standing out. The left portion had quite a Venetian aspect: people were moving to and fro, some on planks, some on hastily constructed rafts, fetching out their goods or those of some unfortunate neighbour, and floating them to higher parts. The Queen's-walk was rendered impassable, and many of the houses on the sides had at least six feet of water in them. In parts of Queen's road, Arkwright-street, and Kirke White-street people were conveyed to and fro in carts. The water stood in the cellars of many of the houses in Leen-side, Carrington-street, Greyfriars-gate, and several other streets. Wilford-road was the scene of a sad disaster, involving the loss of several lives. The flood was so deep that the only means of communication with Briar-street and the houses near it was by boats or vehicles; in the evening a man with a cart got about a dozen people into it in order to take them to places of less danger. They got out of Briar-street on to Wilford-road safely; but the posts on the road side being covered and only the street lamps to guide the driver, he got too near the edge of the road, which had been raised considerably, the cart was upset into the field on the east side, and six of the passengers were drowned. Next morning a man named Asher rode into the flood in the same neighbourhood in order to bring off a horse which was in an outlying shed, but was himself carried away and drowned. At Wilford the river overflowed the banks, washing down some of the cottages, and standing eight feet deep in many of the houses. The traffic on the railway was much hindered, the trains from Trent having to be sent by the Derby, Codnor Park, and Mansfield lines.

This flood was $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches higher than that of 1852, $23\frac{1}{2}$ inches higher than the floods of 1869 and July, 1875, 28 inches higher than the flood of January, 1877, 36 inches higher than the floods of 1857 and 1872, and 39 inches higher than that of 1864.

The flood of 1795 is estimated to have been about 10 inches higher than the one under notice. 1875

October 29.—Funeral of the Rev. T. Ryder, late minister of Stoney-street chapel, who died on the 7th, while on a visit to the American authoress, Mrs. H. B. Stowe, having gone over to the United States for the benefit of his health. His body was embalmed and forwarded to this country for interment, and was followed to the grave by about 2,200 persons, and at the General Cemetery were several thousands of spectators. He was 36 years of age.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. *St. Ann's Ward*, T. Bentley and D'E. Lynam; *Byron*, H. Egginton and Walter Gregory; *Castle*, H. B. Milward and J. Brown; *Exchange*, F. Acton and G. Blackburn; *St. Mary's*, E. Pratt and S. Turner; *Park*, J. W. Bowers and J. G. Woodward; *Sherwood*, W. Ford and J. W. Jevons. None of the wards were contested.

November 5.—Explosion of gunpowder in the house of a collier in Briar street, off Wilford-road, which nearly destroyed the house and greatly injured the adjoining one. The occupier of the house was killed.

November 9.—Mr. J. Manning appointed Mayor; Mr. John Renals, Sheriff.

November 13.—Death, very suddenly, of the Rev. the Hon. C. J. Willoughby, of Wollaton, aged 53 years.

November 16.—Resignation, through ill health, of Mr. M. I. Preston, as clerk to the Board of Guardians. He was succeeded by Mr. E. R. Morley.

December 21.—Regimental prizes presented to the Robin Hood Rifles by Lieut.-Colonel C. I. Wright.

1876.

January 28.—Opening of the second set of Board Schools in Nottingham. They are situated in Huntingdon-street, and will accommodate 250 boys, 250 girls, and 300 infants. The architects were Messrs. Bakewell & Bramley, and the building work was executed by Mr. J. Jelly. The cost was about £6,000. 1876

March 4.—Laying of the memorial stones of a new Wesleyan chapel, in High Church-street, New Basford. It will seat 600 persons, and the estimated cost was £3,500.

April 28.—Opening of the Unitarian chapel High-pavement. The chapel is erected on the site of the old one, in the style of XIII. century Gothic, and is built of Coxbench stone dressings. The building is very fine of its parts giving to it the character which impression is enhanced by

1876 in the chancel. A magnificent organ built by Messrs. Bishop & Son, of London, at a cost of £1,000, occupies a spacious chamber on one side of the chancel, the decoration of the pipes being designed by the architect. The church will seat 1,000 persons, and was built from the designs of Mr. Stuart Colman, of Bristol, (which were selected from 80 that had been sent in,) by Messrs. Hodson and Facon, of Shakespeare-street, at a cost of about £12,000. The length of the nave is 83 feet 8 inches; depth of chancel, 71 feet 4 inches; width of nave, 35 feet; width of transept, 22 feet 4 inches; width between aisle walls, 63 feet; and the height of spire, over 160 feet. The pulpit is of Caen stone, and is a fine specimen of the sculptor's art, the work of Mr. Shepherd, of Bristol.

May 15, 16, & 17.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between the following eleven of Notts.:—F. Wild, R. Daft, A. Shrewsbury, J. Selby, W. Barnes, W. Oscroft, W. Shrewsbury, W. Clarke, A. Shaw, A. Anthony, and F. Morley, who scored 147 and 128, and eleven of Lancashire, who scored 187 and 89 for four wickets, winning by six wickets.

May 23.—Opening of Exeter Hall, Melbourne-street, Mansfield-road. The hall is built of brick and stone, in the modern Italian style. The interior is in the form of a horse shoe, having a ground floor and three galleries rising amphitheatrically above each other, fitted throughout with chairs, and will seat over 2,000 persons. It is from the design of Mr. T. Simpson, and Messrs. Hodson & Facon were the builders.

May 26.—Foundation stone of the Thos. Adams Memorial church, Pennyfoot-style, laid by the Rev. Henry Wright, M.A., Hon. Secretary to the Church Missionary Society, and formerly rector of St. Nicholas's, Nottingham. It is a handsome Gothic stone building in the style of the XIV. century, and is designed to accommodate 600 or 700 persons. The architect was Mr. R. C. Sutton, and the builder Mr. C. Lowe. The estimated cost was £7,500.

June 14.—Mr. D. W. Heath held an inquest at New Basford, on the body of Mrs. Sarah Lane, who had died through the ill usage of her husband, when a verdict of wilful murder against John Lane was returned. He was shortly afterwards found hanging from a tree; and at an inquest held on the following day a verdict of *felo de se* was returned.

June 26, 27, & 28.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between the same eleven of Notts., with the exception of J. Kesteven and W. Scotton in place of W. Clarke and A. Anthony, and eleven of Yorkshire, who scored 208 and 175. The home team scored 298 (A. Shrewsbury contributing 118 and R. Daft 81) and 60 for the loss of four wickets. The match was drawn.

July 1.—Review of the Household troops and Volunteers by the Prince of Wales, in Hyde Park, when the Robin Hood Rifles, 800 in number, were again declared to be the finest regi-

ment on the ground. As they marched past the Prince cheer after cheer rang out from the deep line of spectators. The applause was not confined to the body of spectators, as His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, Commander-in-Chief, was heard to remark that he would take that regiment anywhere. *The Times*, in its remarks on the review, alludes to Colonel Seely's fine regiment as the crack corps on the ground.

July 10, 11, & 12.—Cricket match at Prince's ground, between the same eleven of Notts., with the exception of J. Tye in place of W. Scotton, and eleven of Middlesex, who scored 173 and 220. Our team scored 339 (R. Daft 82) and 10 for the loss of one wicket. The match was not played out owing to the sudden death on the ground of Thomas Box, the Middlesex groundman.

July 13, 14, & 15.—Return cricket match at Manchester, between eleven of Lancashire, who scored 158 and 138, and the same eleven of Notts., who scored 94 and 203 for the loss of nine wickets, winning by one wicket.

July 17, 18, & 19.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, North v. South, for R. Daft's benefit, the company being more numerous than ever known on the ground. North scored 102 and 242, South 155 and 190 (W. G. Grace not out 114) for the loss of two wickets, winning by eight wickets.

July 20.—Memorial stone of a new chapel and school belonging to the Methodist New Connexion body, in Campbell-street, laid by Mr. Alderman Foster. The style of the building is Gothic, and it will accommodate 400 persons, and the school 300. Mr. A. H. Goodall was the architect, and the contractors Messrs. R. & W. Ellia. The building cost £1,649.

July 26.—Commencement of the Wesleyan Conference in Halifax-place chapel.

July 31 & August 1 & 2.—Cricket match at Kennington Oval, between eleven of Surrey, who scored 83 and 142, and the following eleven of Notts.:—R. Daft, W. Oscroft, A. Shrewsbury, J. Selby, W. Barnes, Mr. R. Tolley, R. Butler, A. Shaw, W. Clarke, J. Tye, and F. Morley, who scored 153 and 75 (W. Oscroft not out 37 and A. Shrewsbury not out 34) without the loss of a wicket, winning by ten wickets.

August 1.—Trial, in the Great Market-place, of a new steam fire engine, the Robin Hood, by Messrs. Shand, Mason, & Co. The engine proved far superior to the Trent, the one already in use in Nottingham.

August 14, 15, & 16.—Return cricket match at Clifton College ground, between eleven of Gloucestershire and the same eleven of Notts., with the exception of M. Sherwin in place of R. Butler, who scored 265 (W. Oscroft 84 and R. Daft 62) and 165. Gloucestershire scored 400 (Mr. W. G. Grace 177 and Mr. G. F. Grace 78) and 33 without the loss of a wicket, winning by ten wickets.

1876

August 17, 18, & 19.—Return cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between the same eleven of Notts. and eleven of Middlesex. The home team scored 217 and 90 for the loss of eight wickets, Middlesex 134 and 214. The match was drawn.

August 22.—Destruction by fire of five thatched cottages on Wilford Green.

August 24.—The Brunswick Chemical Works, Hermit-street, Sneinton, destroyed by fire. The damage was estimated at from £2,000 to £2,500.

August 27.—Cardinal Manning, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, preached at St. Barnabas's cathedral, on the occasion of the festival of the dedication of the church; and on the following day his eminence was entertained at a public banquet at the Mechanics' Hall.

August 28, 29, & 30.—Return cricket match at Sheffield, between the same Notts. eleven, with the exception of Messrs. A. W. Cursham and A. T. Ashwell in place of Mr. R. Tolley and W. Clarke, and eleven of Yorkshire, who scored 87 and 32. Notts. scored 46 and 75 for the loss of two wickets, winning by eight wickets.

August 31 & September 1 & 2.—Return cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between the same eleven of Notts. with the exception of Mr. G. E. Power in place of Mr. A. W. Cursham, and eleven of Surrey, who scored 26 and 100. Notts. scored 150, winning by an innings and 23 runs.

September 26.—Opening of the Albert Hall by the Mayor, J. Manning, Esq. The style of architecture is early Gothic of a French cast. Over the front to North Circus-street is a powerfully outlined tower, designed not only for ornament, but to act as an extracting shaft for the ventilating flues throughout the building. Mr. Fothergill was the architect, and Messrs. Stevenson & Wesson the builders. The cost was about £13,000.

October 3 (Tuesday).—Previous to this year, Nottingham Goose Fair had always commenced on October 2nd, and was proclaimed for nine days; but the Town Council having decided that five days should be its extent, namely, from the first Tuesday in October until the first Saturday, it commenced at this date.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. *St. Ann's Ward*, J. A. Jacoby 1,525, H. Browne 1,388, J. P. Wood 771, J. Robinson 546; *Byron*, J. Robinson 1,156, G. Belk 1,144, J. Wilcock 807, M. R. Raven 803; *Castle*, H. A. Attenborough and G. Stevenson; *Exchange*, J. Turney 677, R. Denhett 635, W. Harris 380, P. P. Truman 123; *St. Mary's*, Wm. Nicholls and T. Simpson; *Park*, H. Vickers 203, E. H. Fraser 196, C. B. Truman 70, W. A. Blain 62; *Sherwood*, J. Comyn and T. Worth.

November 9.—Mr. J. W. Bowers appointed Mayor; Mr. L. Lindley, Sheriff.

November 20.—Mr. G. Moore, of the firm of Copestake, Moore, & Co., London & Nottingham, knocked down by two young

horses that had broken loose from some livery stables at Carlisle, 1876 and so seriously injured that he died on the following day.

November 25.—Alexandra Skating Rink, Talbot-street, opened.

November 26.—The third triennial election of the Nottingham School Board took place. The following is a list of the candidates and the numbers each polled, by which it will be seen that the unsectarians again obtained the majority:—

Unsectarians.		Denominationalists.	
Mr. J. T. Mallet	... 9426	Rev. J. Harnett	... 10400
Mr. E. Goldschmidt	... 9425	Mr. T. Bentley	... 9356
Mr. E. Gripper	... 9283	Mr. H. Blandy	... 9353
Mr. W. G. Ward	... 9273	Rev. W. V. Jackson	... 9248
Mr. W. B. Baggailey	... 9164	Mr. H. M. Baines	... 9021
Rev. J. B. Dougherty	... 9149	Mr. M. Mellers	... 8732
Mr. B. Dowson	... 8920	Mr. J. H. Haywood	... 8551

The first thirteen constituted the board.

December 1.—Disastrous fire at the Nottingham County Hall, the greater portion of which had been rebuilt within a few months previous. The fire commenced at the back of the old or civil court, which was completely destroyed; and the work of destruction was nearly equal in the new crown court. The prison at the rear and the grand jury room were saved.

December 6.—The valley of the Trent again flooded, but not to the extent of some former floods. The water at the Trent Bridge was about three inches lower than the mark of 1864.

December 21.—Regimental prizes presented to the Robin Hood Rifles by Mrs. C. Seely, of Sherwood Lodge.

1877.

January 5.—Nottingham and the valley of the Trent visited by another of the floods which had been so alarmingly frequent of late years. The Meadows presented the appearance of an archipelago, all traces of the river being lost, the swift current alone remaining to mark the course of the stream. The Midland railway was submerged for a considerable distance, and the spectacle was peculiar of a railway train like an immense serpent ploughing its winding way through the waste of waters. During the flood a draughtsman named Edward Wright, living in Bell-street, Meadows, had proceeded in a cab to the end of Crocus-street, when the cab stopped he immediately jumped out, and running along the road was washed off the embankment and drowned.

January 9.—At a dinner held at the George Hotel, Richard Daft was presented with a testimonial in recognition of his services as a cricketer on behalf of his county. The testimonial was in the form of a silver salver beautifully worked, with silver tea and

1877 coffee service, and a purse containing £500. The salver (which, with the other plate, cost £150) bore the following inscription :—
 “Presented, with a tea and coffee service, and a purse of 500 sovereigns, to Richard Daft, by the admirers of cricket throughout the kingdom. 1876.” Mr. John Walker, of the Middlesex club, added a silver tankard, and Captain Holden, a silver hunting flask.

January 28.—Death of Mr. R. A. Sylvester, through accidentally falling down the cellar steps in his own house.

February 4.—Escape of four prisoners named Henry Carnell, Charles Brandon, John Starr, and Daniel Noller, by breaking through the roof of the prison infirmary, at the County Gaol, at Nottingham. They let themselves down into one of the warehouse yards adjoining, and got clear away.

February 12.—Opening of the Marble Skating Rink, Talbot-street.

March 28.—Foundation stone of a new wing to the General Hospital laid by Earl Manvers, in the name of the Countess Manvers. The wing comprises two wards 80 feet by 30 feet, and 16 feet high, with necessary rooms adjoining, providing accommodation for 45 additional patients. T. C. Hine & Son, architects. This extension of the hospital involved the destruction of the last vestige of the old town wall. Faint traces of its deeply excavated dry moat will however still be left, which, by the way, ceased to be a dry moat above a century and a half ago, as some 50 yards of its length were then filled with the water of a public reservoir, and even now one portion of it provides the rain water storage for the hospital. Into this moat two subterranean passages open, one formerly running down to the Castle, and the other to Chapel-bar Gatehouse, but no more than one third in the length of each is now to be seen.

April 5.—Mr. James Hartshorn committed suicide by cutting his throat in his chamber.

April 10.—Foundation stone of St. Jude's church, Mapperley-plains, laid by W. Windley, Esq., J.P. Mr. Wright, owner of Mapperley Park, made a present of the ground, and also a substantial donation to the building fund.

April 27.—The Borough Extension Bill passed through committee in the House of Commons.

May 10.—Laying of four corner stones of a new Baptist chapel, Woodborough-road, by Miss Bayley, of Lenton Abbey; Mr. A. Goodliffe, of Nottingham; Mr. P. Spence, J.P., of Manchester; and Mr. J. Cockayne, president of the Nottingham Sunday School Union.

June 11, 12, & 13.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between the following eleven of Notts.:—R. Daft, W. Oscroft, A. Shrewsbury, R. Butler, F. Wild, J. Selby, W. Barnes, W. Flowers, A. Shaw, J. Tye, and F. Morley, who scored 155 and 48, and eleven of Lancashire, who scored 112 and 46. Nearly £14 was

subscribed for Morley, who took seven wickets in Lancashire's second innings, which finished five minutes prior to the time for drawing the stumps on the 3rd day. Notts. won by 46 runs. 1877

June 14, 15, & 16.—Cricket match at Kent county ground, between eleven of Kent, who scored 94 and 171, and the same eleven of Notts., with the exception of S. Hind, junr., in place of W. Flowers, who scored 157 and 347 (W. Barnes not out 109). Notts. won by 239 runs.

June 18.—Inauguration of a monument at Cossall to Corporal Shaw and two other Waterloo heroes. It is in the form of an obelisk, about twelve feet high, with a carved foliage apex, a wreath of ivy leaves encircling the pyramid about half way down. It stands on a square base of stone, and is composed of pure white Carrara marble in three heights, on the bottom one lie the cuirass, helmet, and two crossed swords of a Life Guardsman. The inscription is on the front side of the top square, which has been carved on the face to represent a shield, and is as follows:—"This monument is erected to the memory of John Shaw and Richard Waplington, of the Life Guards, and Thomas Wheatley, of the Light Dragoon Guards, who left their native home in the defence of their country. The two former fell at Waterloo, the latter returned and lies buried in this churchyard. (Valour.)"

June 25, 26, & 27.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between the following eleven of Notts.:—R. Daft, W. Oscroft, A. Shrewsbury, J. Selby, W. Barnes, R. Butler, W. Scotton, M. McIntyre, W. Flowers, J. Wheeler, and F. Morley, who scored 168 and 115 and eleven of Yorkshire, who scored 140 and 121, leaving Notts. winners by 22 runs.

July 3.—Mr. Richard D. Kent appointed master of the Nottingham Union Workhouse, and Mrs. Kent matron.

July 5, 6, & 7.—Return cricket match at Old Trafford, Manchester, between the following eleven of Notts.:—R. Daft, W. Oscroft, A. Shrewsbury, F. Wild, Mr. A. Cursham, R. Butler, J. Selby, W. Barnes, S. Hind, F. Morley, and J. Tye, who scored 68 and 67, and eleven of Lancashire, who scored 117 and 209, winning by 201 runs.

July 9, 10, & 11.—Cricket match at Lord's ground, for the benefit of G. Howitt, between eleven of Middlesex, who scored 149 and 290, and the same eleven of Notts., with the exception of W. Flowers in place of R. Butler, who scored 368 (R. Daft 96) and 75 for the loss of one wicket, winning by nine wickets.

July 11.—The Nottingham Improvement and Borough Extension Bill having passed into law, Mr. Fitzgerald held a commission of inquiry in the Lecture Hall of the Mechanics' Institution, on the division of the new borough into sixteen wards, and fix their boundaries. By this act the population of the borough increased to about 200,000, and the number of voters for municipal purposes from 17,840 to 28,924. The new borough, 9,960 acres. By this act, which came into operation, &c.

1877 1877, the nomination paper of each candidate for the Council must be signed by eight enrolled burgesses, instead of one as under the old system, and must be delivered seven days prior to the election.

July 12, 13, & 14.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between the following eleven of Notts:—R. Daft, W. Oscroft, A. Shrewsbury, Mr. R. Tolley, F. Wild, J. Selby, W. Barnes, W. Flowers, A. J. Brooks, F. Morley, and M. Sherwin, who scored 150 and 120, and eleven of Surrey, who scored 103 and 142. Notts. won by 18 runs.

July 19, 20, & 21.—Return cricket match at Kennington Oval, between the same Notts. eleven, with the exception of S. Hind in place of W. Flowers, who scored 97 and 247 and eleven of Surrey, who scored 250 and 97, for the loss of seven wickets, winning by three wickets.

July 22.—Death of W. Windley, Esq., J.P., the munificent donor of All Saints' church, schools, and vicarage. His remains were interred in the Church Cemetery on the 26th.

July 23.—Nottingham Tramways Bill received the Royal assent.

July 25.—The first sod of the New Educational Buildings in Horse Fair close, turned by Mr. Councillor Goldschmidt, chairman of the Free Libraries and Museum committee. Amongst those present were Mr. R. Enfield, representing the anonymous donor of the £10,000, the Town Clerk, the Borough Engineer, &c.

July 26.—Inspection of the Robin Hood Rifles, on Bulwell Forest, by Colonel Rickman, the muster being 767 of all ranks.

August 2, 3, & 4.—Cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between the same eleven of Notts, with the exception of M. M'Intyre and W. Clarke in place of S. Hind and A. J. Brooks, who scored 124 and 115, and eleven of Gloucestershire, who scored 287 (Mr. W. O. Moberley not out 110), winning in one innings by 48 runs.

August 13, 14, & 15.—Return cricket match at Cheltenham College ground, between the following eleven of Notts:—R. Daft, W. Oscroft, A. Shrewsbury, Mr. R. Tolley, Mr. Miles, F. Wild, J. Selby, W. Barnes, J. Tye, F. Morley, and M. Sherwin, who scored 111 and 79, and eleven of Gloucestershire, who scored 235, winning by an innings and 45 runs.

August 16.—Fearful thunder storm, during which four little boys, who had taken shelter from the rain under one of the elm trees in Robin Hood's-chase, were struck by the electric fluid and thrown with violence to the ground. Three of them, named Alfred Westbury, John Heathcote, and Thomas Shardlow, were seriously injured; but one named Porter escaped with a slight shock to his system, from which he soon recovered. Several buildings in Nottingham were also injured.

August 16, 17, & 18.—Return cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between the same Notts. eleven, with the exception of Mr. A. W. Cursham in place of Mr. Miles, who scored 192 and

193 for the loss of nine wickets, and eleven of Middlesex, who scored 400 (Hon. E. Lyttleton and Mr. A. J. Webbe 100 each) in their first and only innings. The match was drawn. 1877

August 27, 28, & 29.—Return cricket match at Trent-bridge ground, between the same eleven of Notts., with the exception of W. Flowers in place of J. Tye, who scored 65 and 109, and eleven of Kent, who scored 186, winning by an innings and 12 runs.

September 3, 4, & 5.—Return cricket match at Bramall-lane, Sheffield, between the following eleven of Notts.:—R. Daft, W. Oscroft, A. Shrewsbury, F. Wild, Mr. A. W. Cursham, J. Selby, W. Barnes, W. Flowers, S. Hind, M. M'Intyre, and F. Morley, who scored 110 and 143, and eleven of Yorkshire, who scored 145 and 49 for the loss of one wicket. The match was drawn.

September 11.—Opening of a new Baptist chapel, at the junction of Woodborough-road with Alfred-street, by the Rev. Archibald Brown. The chapel is 84 feet by 45 feet, and will seat from 500 to 600 persons. There is a large school-room underneath, which will accommodate 400 children. It was erected by Mr. Smith, builder, Meadows, from designs by Mr. Scattergood, of Bulwell, at the cost of about £3,500.

September 27.—Foundation stone of the new University Buildings, in Horse Fair close, laid. The ceremony was attended by the Duke of St. Albans, Lord Belper, Earl Manvers, the Rev. Canon Morse, the Earl of Carnarvon, the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, and many other distinguished gentlemen. The Mayor (J. W. Bowers, Esq.,) laid the stone, in a cavity of which was placed a bottle containing coins, lace, and other articles in the usual manner, after which, the Earl of Carnarvon, Mr. Gladstone, and Mr. S. Morley addressed an immense concourse of spectators. At the termination of the proceedings, a sumptuous luncheon was provided at the Albert Hall, at which, by invitation from the Mayor, a large portion of the company attended. Speeches were afterwards delivered by the Mayor, Earl Manvers, Colonel Seely, the Duke of St. Albans, &c. This building, now approaching its completion, will comprise the Free Public Library, Free Natural History Museum, University Extension Classes, &c., and was estimated to cost about £50,000, without the land. The Library will occupy the Sherwood-street side, the Museum will face Bilbie-street, and the rest of the building will be devoted to the University Extension Scheme and Borough Laboratory. It is expected to be ready for occupation during the summer of 1880.

October 28.—Re-opening of St. Paul's church after alterations.

October 31.—The following thirteen gentlemen appointed magistrates for the borough of Nottingham:—Messrs. Saul Isaac, M.P., E. Percy, P. H. Cooper, J. Manning, W. Parsons, W. Dobson, E. Patchitt, S. Butler, J. M. Pott, W. Skinner, T. I. Birkin, J. Pettifor, and J. Bradshaw.

October 31.—The following is a list of the retiring Council:—Mayor, J. W. Bowers; Sheriff, L. Lindley; Aldermen, Messrs.

- 1877 T. Cullen, W. Foster, J. Howitt, W. Knight, J. Reckless, J. L. Thackeray, W. G. Ward, J. Barber, W. Lambert, L. Hardy, T. Herbert, J. Manning, J. Oldknow, and W. Vickers; Members of the Council, *St. Ann's Ward*, Messrs. T. Bentley, D. Lynam, E. Massey, J. Trevitt, H. Browne, and J. A. Jacoby; *Byron*, Messrs. Walter Gregory, H. Egginton, J. Crosland, T. Tutin, G. Belk, and J. Robinson; *Castle*, Messrs. J. Brown, H. M. Baines, G. Smith, J. S. R. Annibal, H. A. Attenborough, and J. Stevenson; *Exchange*, Messrs. G. Blackburn, F. Acton, C. Barnes, J. S. Gilpin, R. Dennett, and J. Turney; *St. Mary's*, Messrs. S. Turner, E. Pratt, J. E. Minnitt, W. Whitehead, W. Nicholls, and T. Simpson; *Park*, Messrs. E. H. Fraser, H. Vickers, J. G. Woodward, J. W. Bowers, W. Clark, and F. Stevenson; *Sherwood*, Messrs. W. Ford, J. W. Jevons, J. A. Clarke, E. Goldschmidt, J. Comyn, and T. Worth.

November 1.—First Municipal election in the extended borough of Nottingham. The wards had been increased from seven to sixteen, and the number of Councillors for each reduced from six to three, one to retire in each year. The following is the official declaration of the poll for each ward:—*Bridge*, G. Blackburn 690, J. Turney 576, R. Dennett 528, W. H. Harris 402, W. Shrewsbury 340; *Broxtowe*, F. H. Wilkinson, J. P. Ford, and W. Burton; *Byron*, J. Robinson, W. Gregory, and J. Wilcock; *Castle*, T. Bayley 704, J. Renals 678, J. B. Walker 669, J. Froggatt 486, T. Shepperson 458, W. R. Annibal 405; *Forest*, L. Lindley 828, W. Ford 803, F. Acton 791, W. Billyeald 676, M. Mellers 641, W. A. Heazell 611; *Manvers*, A. Wilson 672, F. Pulman 617, M. R. Raven 573, N. Pratt 348, J. Webster 342, J. S. Hedderley 320; *Mapperley*, J. S. Gilpin 394, T. Palmer 357, T. Tutin 338, S. Robinson 323, T. Dickinson 310, J. Bausor 297; *Market*, J. G. Woodward 914, T. Worth 901, H. Vickers 840, H. A. Attenborough 569, J. S. R. Annibal 568, W. A. Blain 564; *Meadows*, A. Cleaver 420, H. M. Baines 407, W. B. Baggailey 399, J. Stevenson 391, J. Brown 389; *Robin Hood*, J. A. Jacoby 832, H. Browne 722, J. Trevitt 694, W. Slim 476, T. Sperrey 443; *St. Ann's*, T. Bentley 974, W. Pyatt 900, S. Limpenny 849, H. W. Letherland 767, — Cockburn 764, D'E. Lynam 744; *St. Albans*, J. Oliver 664, F. Felkin 661, T. Holmes 656, J. Diggle 471, A. Faulconbridge 434, W. H. Gamble 388, Dr. Buckby 22; *St. Mary's*, W. Whitehead 695, T. Black 692, S. Turner 675, E. Pratt 665, Z. Stafford 663; *Sherwood*, E. Goldschmidt 999, J. Clarke 927, J. W. Jevons 840, J. Comyn 804, J. G. Richardson 583, Dr. Watchorn 412, M. Jones 91; *Trent*, W. Nicholls 715, T. Simpson 577, H. S. Cropper 560, W. W. Cooper 486, T. W. Elliott 391, W. Britton 298; *Wollaton*, J. Priestly 779, J. Burton 764, G. Goode 670, E. H. Fraser 644, — Birks 259, M. Jones 210.

November 8.—First united meeting of the Nottingham, Basford, Lenton, Radford, and Sneinton School Boards in the Grand Jury Room, at the Town Hall, when thirty-two members were present, and Mr. Gripper was chosen chairman. The following

extract from the finance committee's report will show the financial position of the various School Boards comprised in the extended borough:—The accounts for the month ended 31st October showed the following total receipts:—Nottingham £94, Basford £230, Sneinton £103, Lenton £178: total £606. Balances overdrawn on 31st October:—Nottingham £930, Basford £1,231, Sneinton £124, Lenton £36. With regard to Basford they had spent about £900, which would be refunded. The expenditure side showed that Nottingham owed for loans, represented by the two board schools, £16,583, other liabilities £163; Basford had liabilities amounting to £32, Sneinton liabilities for loans £8,820, making the total liabilities for loans £24,803, and for small items £195. The total amount of existing loans, and loans negotiated or in process of negotiation up to the commencement of the borough extension, £44,662. By the terms upon which these loans had been raised (assuming the rateable value of the new borough to remain at its present amount) this sum would be repaid with interest in the course of the next fifty years, by an annual charge upon the rates of about £1,900, or less than a penny in the pound. The committee had had under consideration the probable requirements of the board from the 1st November to the 4th of April, 1878. The estimated liabilities for this period amounted to £4,300, which sum was equal to a rate of less than twopence in the pound on the whole rateable value of the extended borough, now upwards of £600,000. The estimated expenditure commenced with a deficiency of £2,323, arising from the arrangements which were necessary for the amalgamation of the finances of the different boards; and it was calculated that it would be covered by the government grant estimated to have been earned by the several schools under the control of the board, and by money to be raised from the Loan Commissioners. The committee accordingly recommended the board to resolve to issue precepts to the rating authority of the extended borough for the aggregate sum of £4,300. A rider was affixed to the report concerning the Radford Board, stating that £10,312 had been raised on loan, and of this sum £5,176 had been spent in the erection of schools and part purchase of lands, leaving £5,136 still to be laid out on works of a permanent character.

November 9.—First meeting of the Town Council of the extended borough, when W. G. Ward, Esq., was appointed Mayor; Mr. J. A. Jacoby, Sheriff; and the following sixteen gentlemen Aldermen:—Messrs. J. Barber, J. W. Bowers, J. S. Gilpin, W. Foster, E. Gripper, J. Howitt, J. Manning, and W. G. Ward, for six years; and Messrs. W. H. Burgess, W. Ford, E. Goldschmidt, W. Lambert, J. Oldknow, J. L. Thackeray, W. Whitehead, and J. G. Woodward, for three years.

November 20.—Fire on the premises of Mr. J. W. Bowers, Wheeler-gate, in the occupation of Mr. Sulley, architect, and Mr. E. H. Fraser, solicitor. The damage was estimated at about £200.

1877

November 21.—Execution of Thomas Grey, in the interior of the County Gaol, for the murder of Ann Mellors, by cutting her throat, at Car Colston, on the 20th of August, 1877.

November 23.—The elections for Councillors to fill up the vacancies caused by the raising of Councillors J. S. Gilpin, W. Ford, E. Goldschmidt, W. Whitehead, and J. G. Woodward to the Aldermanic bench, took place in the following wards, one in each:—*Market*, Z. Stafford 678, J. S. R. Annibal 368, R. Allen 212; *Sherwood*, J. Smith 825, J. Comyn 673; *Mapperley*, S. Robinson 484, H. Ashwell 287; *Forest*, J. Miller; *St. Mary's*, E. Pratt.

November 28.—Election of the first School Board under the Borough Extension Act, which consisted of fifteen members. Twenty-six gentlemen had been nominated, but eleven having withdrawn, the following constituted the Board:—H. Ashwell, Rev. J. B. Dougherty, B. Dowson, J. S. Gilpin, E. Gripper, J. T. Mallet, Z. Stafford, A. Wilson, H. M. Baines, T. Bentley, Rev. H. T. Fountaine, Rev. Canon Harnett, M. Mellers, H. E. Thornton, and the Rev. V. W. Hutton. The first eight are unsectarians.

December 20.—Regimental prizes presented to the Robin Hood Rifles by the Mayoress (Mrs. W. G. Ward).

December 20.—Death of Lord Middleton, at his seat Birdsall, Yorkshire, aged 60 years. Buried in the churchyard at Birdsall.

December 21.—Consecration of the Rev. Edward Trollope, rector of Leasingham, Lincolnshire, by the Archbishop of Canterbury, at Westminster Abbey, as Bishop Suffragan of Nottingham.

December 30.—Death of Mr. Job Bradshaw, at his residence, Standard-hill, aged 73 years, for several years a member of the Town Council, and proprietor and conductor of the *Nottingham Journal* from 1841 to 1866, when he retired in favour of his sons, the present proprietors.

December.—Opening of the completed portion of St. Jude's church, Mapperley, by the Bishop Suffragan of Nottingham.

1878.

1878

February 10.—Serious fire in the roof of St. Matthew's church, caused by the overheating of a flue.

February 13.—Execution of John Brooks, in the Nottingham Borough Gaol, for the murder, on the 11th of December, 1877, of Caroline Woodhead, a married woman, by cutting her throat, in one of the garden avenues leading out of Milne's-lane, New Lenton. He afterwards gave himself up to a policeman.

March 14.—Opening of the Café, on the Long-row (established for the sale of non-intoxicating refreshments) by Mr. S. Morley, who afterwards laid the foundation stone of Morley House, for the establishment of another Café and other purposes, at the junction of Shakespeare-street and Melbourne-street.

TABLE OF NOTTINGHAM COUNTY CRICKET MATCHES FOR 1878.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE		versus	
Leicestershire, Leicester, Sept. 16.	1	Leicester, 87, 76.	Notts. 348.
Kent, Trent-bridge, August 29.	1	Kent 94, 74 for 8 wickets.	Notts. 186. Drawn.
Surrey, Kemington Oval, Aug. 26.	1	Surrey 63, 92.	Notts. 127, 167.
Middlesex, Trent-bridge, Aug. 22.	1	Middlesex 85, 66 for 4 wks.	Notts. 265. Drawn.
Derbyshire, Derby, August 19.	1	Derbyshire, 108, 120.	Notts. 166, 65 for 3 wickets.
Gloucestershire, Clifton, Aug. 12.	1	Gloucestershire 127, 137.	Notts. 84, 71.
Gloucestershire, Trent-bridge, Aug. 1.	1	Gloucestershire 166, 253.	Notts. 258, 10. Drawn.
Yorkshire, Trent-bridge, July 22.	1	Yorkshire 69, 96.	Notts. 228 one innings.
Lancashire, Manchester, July 18.	1	Notts. 43, 134.	Lancashire 162, 26 none out.
Middlesex, Lord's, July 16.	1	Middlesex 271, 221.	Notts. 222, 252 for 8 wks. Dn.
Surrey, Trent-bridge, July 11.	1	Surrey 45, 84.	Notts. 88, 43 none out.
Yorkshire, Sheffield, June 24.	1	Notts. 248, 74.	Yorkshire 419 one innings.
Derbyshire, Trent-bridge, June 20.	1	Derbyshire 56, 93.	Notts. 94, 176.
Leicester, Trent-bridge, June 10.	1	Leicestershire 40, 68.	Notts. 106, 3 none out.
Kent, Town Mall, June 3.	1	Kent 36, 50.	Notts. 134 one innings.
Lancashire, Trent-bridge, May 30.	1	Lancashire 123, 83.	Notts. 138, 69 for 2 wickets.
Australians, Trent-bridge, May 20.	1	Australians 63, 76.	Notts. 153, one innings.
North v. South, Trent-bridge, June 27.	1	North 116, 136.	South 204, 49 none out.

The figure 1 denotes the players who were engaged in each match.

B. Daft.....
 W. Oacroft.....
 A. Shrewsbury.....
 J. Selby.....
 Mr. R. Tolley.....
 F. Wild.....
 Mr. A. W. Curham.....
 W. Barnes.....
 W. Flowers.....
 A. Shaw.....
 F. Morley.....
 S. Hind.....
 Mr. W. F. Story.....
 J. Tye.....
 H. Bembridge.....
 A. J. Bates.....
 J. Mills.....
 W. Scotton.....
 Rev. C. Harrison.....
 Mr. S. W. Widdowson.....
 E. Mills.....
 T. Bignall.....
 Mr. A. M. Wood.....

The North v. South match was for the benefit of G. Parr. In the match Notts. v. Yorkshire, June 24, J. Selby scored 107, and in Notts. v. Middlesex, July 16, 62, and W. Oacroft 77. Notts. v. Middlesex return, August 22, J. Selby 96 and A. Shrewsbury 74. Notts. v. Leicestershire return, Sept. 16, W. Barnes 96 and F. Wild 74.

1878

April 24.—A man named Brownston hung himself in a cell at the Police station. The jury found a verdict of *felo de se*.

April 25.—Opening of the Radford Board Schools, in the presence of a large assemblage of spectators, by Alderman Gripper, chairman of the School Board. These schools will accommodate 300 boys, 300 girls, and 300 infants. Mr. R. C. Sutton was the architect, and Mr. Enoch Hind the builder. The cost was about £10,000. The foundation stone was laid by Mr. John Hancock, chairman of the old School Board, on the 26th of June, 1877.

April 30.—At the Nottingham Borough Sessions the following gentlemen were sworn in as magistrates:—Messrs. W. Parsons, W. Skinner, E. Percy, J. Manning, W. E. Dobson, S. Butler, and J. M. Pott.

May 20.—At a meeting of the Town Council it was agreed to pay the expenses of the celebration of the opening of the Castle Museum out of the profits from the gas undertaking during the current year.

May 30.—Re-opening services on the partial restoration, at the cost of £2,000, of St. Peter's church, when a sermon was preached by the Bishop of Lincoln. It is intended to completely restore the edifice at a cost of £7,000, when the necessary funds have been obtained.

June 14.—Death of the Mayor of Nottingham, W. G. Ward, Esq., caused by a fall from his horse near the foot of the Castle rock, on the previous evening. For years Mr. Ward had been in the foremost rank both in the commercial and political world of Nottingham, and mainly to his energy may be ascribed the borough extension and the adaptation of the Castle as an Art Museum. This event, falling as it did a few days prior to the opening of the Museum by the Prince and Princess of Wales, cast a deep gloom over the town. His remains received a public burial in the Church Cemetery, on the 19th, attended by the Corporation, the Robin Hood Rifles, a large number of his workmen, and representatives of various public bodies, in the presence of an immense concourse of spectators.

June 24.—At a special meeting of the Town Council Alderman J. Oldknow was appointed Mayor in the room of the late W. G. Ward, and Mr. W. Knight elected to the vacant seat on the aldermanic bench.

July 3.—The Midland Counties Art Museum at Nottingham Castle was opened by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who was accompanied by the Princess, and the day's proceedings were characterised by all the *éclat* consequent on the visit of royalty. On the evening of the 2nd, the Prince and Princess arrived at Daybrook station for Bestwood Park, the seat of His Grace the Duke of St. Albans, of whom their Royal Highnesses were the guests.

On the morning of the 3rd it rained! Not mere drizzle, but great big drops that seemed calculated to play sad havoc with the

fragile festoons. If ever a blessing did come in a disguise, it was the rain on that Wednesday morning. It laid the dust, it refreshed the evergreens, it made the atmosphere delightfully cool and pleasant. Presently, the sun shone forth in all the brilliancy of "Queen's weather;" hopes half shattered were revived; people crowded into the town by thousands and tens of thousands, and took up their position along the line of *route*, something like three miles in extent in the first instance. 1878

At half-past ten, the members of the Corporation, borough officials, and others, assembled at the School of Art, Waverley-street, from whence they proceeded, at noon, *via* Forest-road on to Mansfield-road, there to await in their long line of carriages the arrival of the Royal party from Bestwood. At twelve o'clock, the distant cheers told unmistakeably that the Prince and Princess were approaching. A flourish of trumpets greeted them on nearing the "arch of welcome," and the famous band of the Robin Hood Rifles struck up the first six bars of "God save the Queen." The procession was of considerable length, and included the Mayor, the Lord Lieutenant of the county, the Sheriff of the town, the High Sheriff of the county, the Lord Bishop of Lincoln, and numerous other distinguished personages, the members of the Castle Museum Committee and of the Corporation, borough officials, representatives of Friendly Societies, and others, all of whom were, of course, in carriages. The Royal carriage was escorted by a detachment of the 17th Lancers, and by squadrons of the South Notts. Yeomanry and the Sherwood Rangers; and the Prince and Princess of Wales were attended by the Duke of St. Albans and Sir Dighton Probyn.

At the top of Mansfield-road a magnificent and substantial triumphal arch had been erected, on either side of which were displayed the words, "Welcome to Nottingham," where the Royal party were received with a salute by a guard of honour of the Robin Hood Rifles. On Mansfield-road crimson Venetian masts had been erected, to contrast with the green foliage, each pole being surmounted by a flag or bannerette, with midway a shield supporting a number of smaller flags, and the decorations on the houses were extremely beautiful, reflecting great credit upon the taste of the inhabitants. Lace being the chief staple trade of the town, there was no end to the display of the textile fabric, which, especially when hung over scarlet and crimson drapery, demonstrated in an effective fashion its adaptability for decorative purposes. A number of spacious platforms had been erected on Mansfield-road, which were embellished with lace, drapery, and an unlimited amount of bunting. The sight of sights, however, was to be witnessed during the time of the procession crossing the scene here presented can be described. The decorations whilst suspended reflect, the

1878 square. were countless small flags similar to those previously referred to. The houses were uniformly draped with crimson cloth and lace, with an interlacing design of blue artificial flowers. And what a mass of humanity! Never before, probably, in the history of good old Nottingham, has the Great Market-place witnessed such a multitude of human souls. Here, too, 17,000 school-children over the age of nine years, were assembled within barriers erected for the purpose. As soon as the Royal carriage appeared in sight, the youthful army, under the able conductorship of Mr. F. M. Ward, united in singing the National Anthem. On the arrival of the Prince and Princess alongside the barriers, the carriage stopped, whilst the children sang "God bless the Prince of Wales." The Princess was visibly affected, and it was a graceful act that of receiving a bouquet of flowers from the hands of one of the fair little singers. In chapel-bar the festoons again were very effective, and Derby-road was gay with Venetian masts, bunting, lace, drapery, and evergreens. At the top of Derby-road was another triumphal arch, this one having been raised under the auspices of the Nottingham Rowing Club, the leading members of which, loftily seated in an eight-oared outrigger, "tossed oars" on the approach of the Royal carriage, which here again stopped for a few moments. More music, more tremendous cheering, and on again went the procession at a quickened pace. Beyond what had been done by private residents, no decorations were attempted in the Park, the natural loveliness of which rendered such inadvisable. In Newcastle-circus, there was a large gathering of school children of too tender an age to take part in the Market-place demonstration. Proceeding along Park-drive, the gates were reached, where another strong guard of honour of the Robin Hood Rifles was posted, who saluted whilst the band of the regiment again played a portion of the "National Anthem."

There was a brilliant assemblage on the Castle Green, round three sides of which the remainder of the Robin Hood Rifles were ranged, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Seely. The Prince eventually unlocked the door at the principal entrance to the Museum with a key of exquisite workmanship, manufactured for the occasion, after which their Royal Highnesses were conducted to the reception rooms prepared for them. A number of presentations were made, including the Mayor, the Deputy-Mayor, the Sheriff, the Vice-Chairman of the Castle Museum Committee, and several Aldermen and Councillors. Their Royal Highnesses then commenced a tour of the interior of the Museum, Mr. Hine, the architect, and Mr. Wallis, the curator, acting as guides.

The opening ceremony took place under a pavilion erected on the green. The Town Clerk, Mr. S. G. Johnson, having read the address, the Prince read his reply, in which he expressed the gratification it afforded him and the Princess "to be able to visit so important and prosperous a town, and to attend the opening of the Midland Counties Museum." "Nottingham has taken the

lead," continued His Royal Highness, "in carrying out one of the principal objects entertained by the Prince Consort, my lamented father, when he established a National Art Museum at South Kensington, an example which, I trust, will speedily be followed by other municipal bodies throughout the United Kingdom." The Bishop of Lincoln having offered up prayer, the Prince stepped forward, and in distinct tones declared the Museum to be open. A round of hearty applause, with much waving of hats and handkerchiefs, greeted this announcement, and the band of the Royal Artillery played "Rule Britannia."

In the afternoon, a large and influential assembly partook of the hospitality provided at the Mayor's luncheon at the Exchange—which was of a private character. Dense crowds thronged the streets during the remainder of the day, the band of the Coldstream Guards being stationed in the Market-place, and other bands in various parts of the town. At night the town was brilliantly illuminated, and there was a display of fireworks on the Forest, by Mr. Brock, of the Crystal Palace, on a grand scale, fiery portraits being given of the Prince of Wales and the late Mayor, Alderman W. G. Ward. In the Market-place and from the Castle the electric light converted midnight into noontide, as it were, and the great day terminated in a manner highly gratifying to all those concerned in the management of affairs, and to the thousands of sightseers at large.

First telephonic communication in Nottingham established between the Castle Museum and the Police Station, St. John's-street, on the 23rd of June previous.

July 11.—The Rev. J. F. M'Callan elected a member of the Nottingham School Board, in the place of Mr. Mellers, who was disqualified.

July 26.—At the Nottingham Assizes, Thomas Duke, parish clerk of Tollerton, sentenced to twenty years penal servitude, for attempting to kill his wife by poison.

August 6.—Sudden death of Councillor D'E. Lynam of heart disease.

August 6.—Opening of Sherwood Board Schools by Mr. Alderman Gripper. They are intended to accommodate 150 girls and infants only, and cost £2,400.

August 12.—Thomas Cholerton, who on the 6th of May previous murdered a woman named Jane Smith, by cutting her throat, in Notintone-street, Sneinton, paid the last penalty of the law in Nottingham Borough Gaol.

August 14.—At a meeting of the Privy Council, at Osborne House, Her Majesty the Queen conferred the honour of knighthood on Alderman James Oldknow, Mayor of Nottingham.

August 19.—Opening of Basford Board Schools by Mr. Ald. Gripper. The boys' and girls' schools are each 62 feet by 21 feet, and the infant's school 54 feet by 21 feet. The building cost £7,000, but with the land and the school-master's house, the total

1878 reached £10,000. Mr. Thomas M'Clouch, of Bulwell, was the contractor, and Mr. Etwell, of West Bromwich, architect.

August 24.—Four persons, named Julia Bradbury, Clara Russell, William B. Russell, and Lawrence Clarke, had gone on an excursion up the river Trent, and were sheltering under the bank of the river during a thunder storm, when a mass of earth from the bank falling into the boat, overturned it, and three of them were drowned, the last-named only being saved. The three deceased, whose bodies were recovered at various times, were interred in the Church Cemetery on the 30th.

August 31.—Violent thunder storm in Nottingham, by which many cellars were flooded and much damage done.

September 1.—Serious fire in the work-rooms of Messrs. Taylor & Son, picture frame manufacturers, Bridlesmith-gate. The damage was estimated at several hundreds of pounds.

September 17.—The first section of the Nottingham Tramways opened.

September 20.—The Duke of St. Albans installed Grand Master of the Nottingham Province of Freemasonry in the room of the Duke of Newcastle, who had resigned. The duty of installation was performed by Pro Grand Master the Earl of Carnarvon, in the large picture gallery of the Castle Museum, which had been fitted up for the occasion.

October 15.—Died at his residence, Lincoln, Bishop Mackenzie, who had for nearly seven years been Suffragan Bishop of Nottingham.

October 26.—Destructive fire at the corporation stables, Leen-side, in which six valuable horses, belonging to the Corporation, were burnt to death.

October 31.—Regimental prizes presented to the Robin Hood Rifles by Her Grace the Duchess of St. Albans.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. The official statement of the poll was as follows :—*Bridge Ward*, R. Dennett; *Broxtowe*, J. Birch 613, E. Charlesworth 567; *Byron*, J. Wilcock 725, G. Belk 621; *Castle*, J. B. Walker 559, C. Weldon 218; *Forest*, F. Acton 753, J. Acton 401; *Manvers*, M. R. Raven; *Mapperley*, J. Bausor 461, T. Tutin 267; *Market*, H. Vickers; *Meadows*, J. Stevenson 569, W. B. Baggaley 325; *Robin Hood*, H. Bray 589, L. Torr 274; *St. Alban's*, T. Holmes 610, J. Diggle 476; *St. Ann's*, J. Sylvester 628, S. Lympenny 540; *St. Mary's*, S. Turner; *Sherwood*, E. H. Fraser 568, M. W. Jones 143; *Trent*, H. S. Cropper; *Wollaton*, G. Goode 571, T. Vickers 565.

November 4.—The electric light first used for street lamps in Nottingham, on the occasion of F. Maccabe's entertainment at the Mechanics' Hall, five lamps being outside the hall.

November 9.—Sir James Oldknow again appointed Mayor; Mr. J. Turney, Sheriff.

December 13.—Henry Dawson, an eminent landscape painter, died at his house, "The Cedars," Chiswick, at the age of 67 years.

He was born at Hull 1811, but he always regarded Nottingham as his native town, because he resided here from 1812 to 1844. Beginning life as a twisthand here, he occupied his spare time in painting, his pictures realizing from half-a-crown to a sovereign each. In 1835 he became a professional artist. There was an exhibition of his paintings in the Art Museum, Nottingham, for several months, which was followed by one of his water-colour drawings. After a long and successful struggle the good old man passed away just when he had attained a great name in the art world. For a full account of Dawson we refer our readers to the second edition of the official catalogue of the Art Museum, compiled by Mr. Briscoe. 1878

December 30.—A frost, which had lasted from the 6th of December, suddenly broke up, and, combined with a large amount of rain, caused the Trent to overflow its banks, flooding much of the low lying land. On the following day the frost again set in, by which some fine sheets of ice were formed, much to the delight of some thousands of skaters.

1879

February 22.—Died, at the Park Hotel, St. James's, Henry Pelham Alexander Pelham Clinton, 6th Duke of Newcastle, aged 45 years. The deceased, when Lord Lincoln, was a candidate for the representation of Nottingham on the elevation of Mr. Mellor, Q.C., to the judicial bench, in December, 1861, on which occasion he was opposed by the late Sir R. Clifton, and defeated by a large majority. He succeeded to the dukedom on the death of his father, October 18th, 1864. 1879

February 26.—Destructive fire at Clumber House, the seat of the Duke of Newcastle.

March 29.—Died, at Thurgarton Priory, Richard Milward, Esq., J.P. of the county of Nottingham. Interred on April 4th, in Thurgarton churchyard.

March.—The Hide and Skin Market removed to the new premises in the Eastcroft.

April 5.—The second section of the Tramways to Forest-road and Carrington church opened.

April 10.—Died, the Rev. Canon Richard Waldo Sibthorp, B.D., aged 87 years. The deceased gentleman was born October 4th, 1792, and was the fifth son of Colonel Humphrey Waldo Sibthorp, M.P., of Canwick, near Lincoln. He was alternately Churchman and Roman Catholic, was a gentleman who was highly esteemed for his many excellent qualities, was the writer of several theological works, and was an art *connoisseur*. A full account of his life and works will be found in the *Nottingham Guardian*, for Saturday, April 12th, 1879.

1878 In April of this year there were turned up in a piece of land off West-street, Nottingham, several pieces of mediæval pottery manufactured in the town. This find consisted chiefly of water jugs, with the upper portions of the outside covered with a green glaze, and flat-bottomed vessels, all the specimens of which were faulty, having either broken or fallen in shape in the kiln and consequently been thrown aside, proving conclusively that West-street was in the neighbourhood of a pottery. They are believed by Mr. Briscoe (in whose possession this find is), to be specimens of late fourteenth or fifteenth century work. In the spring of 1874, during the excavations for the foundations of the Methodist New Connexion chapel, Parliament-street (and near to West-street), three old kilns were unearthed, in and near to which were found faulty examples of about late fourteenth century earthenware, in the shape of jugs, flat-bottomed vessels, encaustic paving tiles, together with several coins, which fixed the period of manufacture. This collection was presented to the town by the late Alderman Ward, and deposited at the Castle Museum. Whilst the excavations were being made for St. Paul's church (about 1816), which is within three hundred yards of the place of the 1874 and 1879 finds, some kilns and fragments of a similar character were found. There was only one master potter in Nottingham in 1641. In 1693 glass makers' crucibles were made here. The earliest known example of dated Nottingham ware bears the year 1700, and is an unusually fine posset-pot. Dated specimens of this ware, consisting of jugs, christening bowls, mugs, punch bowls, puzzle jugs, and ball rattle, are traced to early in 1781. The Nottingham ware of this period was of a lustrous glaze, the ornamentation chiefly consisting of flowers, birds, and diaper work. Mr. Charles Morley, Sheriff of Nottingham in 1737, was a manufacturer of brown earthenware, carrying on his work in Beck-street, by which he amassed a large fortune. This ware was at one time of great celebrity throughout the Midlands, especially the brown beer mugs. Mr. Morley erected the building now known as the People's Hall as a private residence. It was also occupied by his son, Mr. C. L. Morley, ex-Chamberlain, Sheriff, Councillor, Alderman, and Mayor, who died about March, 1836. In 1739 there were two master potters; and when Deering wrote, about 1750, potters' ware was sent down the Trent to various places. Blackner states that about 1785 there were two potteries here, but Bailey states that the works were discontinued about fifty years before that time, which is certainly incorrect, as (as we have stated) specimens dated 1781 are known to exist. It is believed that the manufacture of pottery at Nottingham ceased about the close of last century. Several specimens of Nottingham ware exist in museums and in private collections. We must refer our readers, who desire further information on this subject, to the most complete article which has ever been published on the subject, which appeared in the *Nottingham Daily Guardian* for September

25th, 1879, and to which we are indebted for the information 1879 contained in this note. The authorship of this article is attributed to Mr. John Potter Biscoe, F.R.H.S., chief librarian of the Free Public Libraries of this town.

May 30.—Grand parade of the Robin Hood Rifles, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Seely, on the Castle green, in commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the commencement of the corps, on which occasion Captain and Adjutant White, on account of declining years, tendered his resignation of the post he had, since its formation, filled with honour to himself and much profit to the regiment. Amongst those present to witness the parade were the Mayor (Sir James Oldknow), the majority of the Corporation, and over 5,000 of the principal inhabitants.

According to the Volunteer Regulations, Capt. White, having served the required time, retired with the rank of Major. A subscription was afterwards raised, and an annuity purchased, at the cost of £1,400, allowing him £115 6s. per annum, with a provision of £100 per annum to Mrs. White, should she survive him.

The following statement, taken from the Regimental Orders, January 1st, 1879, gives a few interesting particulars of the corps at that date:—

Enrolled January 1st, 1861	746
Add members enrolled since	4,681
	<hr/>
	5,427
Deduct members resigned	4,427
	<hr/>
Total present strength	1,000

The above will show that upwards of five thousand four hundred men connected with Nottingham and locality have been drilled and instructed in the use of the rifle; and from Monday, August 30th, 1860, to Tuesday, the 24th of September, 1878, no less than 4,729 members have undergone a course of musketry instruction, passed an examination, and obtained official certificates for target practice.

No. 3.—During the time the borough authorities have most kindly given the battalion the use of the Town Butts, the following quantity of ball ammunition has been received and nearly all expended:—

Supplied by Government gratuitously	1,605,290
Received on pre-payment	714,000

Total number of rounds	2,319,290
------------------------------	-----------

NOTE.—The ammunition purchased by members from the Regimental Magazine has cost them £1,740 10s. 4d.

July 3.—First anniversary of the opening of the Castle Museum.

July 10.—Re-opening of St. James's church after extensive alterations, including a new organ, erected by Messrs. Brindley and Foster, of Sheffield, at a cost of upwards of £600. The Right Rev. Dr. Wordsworth, Bishop of Lincoln, preached on the occasion.

July 25.—At the assizes this day, Mary Ann Sanderson was condemned to death for the wilful murder of Alice Raynor, on the 11th of June, 1879, by performing an unlawful operation. The sentence was afterwards commuted to penal servitude for life.

1879

TABLE OF NOTTINGHAM COUNTY CRICKET MATCHES FOR 1879.

The figure 1 denotes the players who were engaged in each match.

The North v. South match was for the benefit of A. Shaw

In the match Notts. v. Kent, June 6, J. Selby scored 72 and W. Oscroft 140. In Notts. v. Gloucestershire, August 2, W. Oscroft scored 76, and W. G. Grace 102. In Notts. v. Middlesex, Aug. 11, W. Scotton scored not out 84 and Barnes 54. In Notts. v. Gloucestershire, Aug. 21, A. Shrewsbury

R. Daft	.....
W. Oscroft	.....
A. Shrewsbury	.....
J. Selby	.....
F. Wild	.....
W. Barnes	.....
W. Flowers	.....
A. Shaw	.....
F. Morley	.....
Mr. W. F. Story	.....
J. Mills	.....
W. Scotton	.....
Mr. G. S. Foljambe	.....
W. Shrewsbury	.....
W. Wright	.....
Mr. B. Blackburn	.....

scored 87 and W. Barnes 53. This match will be long remembered as the conclusion of Cheltenham cricket week, as well as for the first defeat of our western rivals on their own ground in a county match. The Notts. men assembled in the dressing room cheering Barnes and Shrewsbury to the very echo. During the week the little town had been *en fete*, and on Wednesday evening the Mayor gave a banquet to the Notts., Yorkshire, & Gloucestershire teams at the principal hotel. At the athletic sports, on Friday evening, Selby and Wright each obtained a silver cup for running, and on appearing to receive their prizes were loudly cheered by the spectators. Before our players finally retired from the scene of action the Cheltenham band drew up in front of the Royal Hotel, their head quarters, kept by Mr. G. Spafford, a Nottingham man, and played "See the conquering hero comes."

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE 997924	
Kent, Trent-bridge, August 25.	1
Gloucester, Cheltenham, Aug. 31.	1
Derbyshire, Derby, August 18.	1
Lancashire, Manchester, Aug. 14.	1
Middlesex, Trent-bridge, Aug. 11.	1
Gloucestershire, Trent-bridge, Aug. 1.	1
Middlesex, Lord's, July 16.	1
Derbyshire, Trent-bridge, July 10.	1
Yorkshire, Sheffield, June 30.	1
M.C.C. & ground, Lord's, June 17.	1
Yorkshire, Trent-bridge, June 8.	1
Kent, Canterbury, June 6.	1
Lancashire, Trent-bridge, May 26.	1
North v. South, Lord's ground, June 3.	1
Kent 109, 100. Notts. 233, won in one innings.	
Gloucestershire 123, 119. Notts. 66, 178 for 4 wickets.	
Derbyshire 68, 38. Notts. 110, won in one innings.	
Notts. 162, 174 for 8 wickets. Lancashire 184. Drawn.	
Middlesex 126, 318 for 6 wickets. Notts. 248. Drawn.	
Notts. 172, 120 for 5 wickets. Gloucestershire 197. Drawn.	
Middlesex 82, 141. Notts. 66, 74 for 2 wickets. Drawn.	
Derbyshire 16, 44. Notts. 159, won in one innings.	
Notts. 117, 79. Yorkshire 180, 18 for one wicket.	
M.C.C. 94, 78. Notts. 70, 86. M.C.C. won by 16 runs.	
Yorkshire 46, 2. Notts. 170. Drawn owing to rain.	
Kent 126, 78. Notts. 394 won in one innings.	
Notts. 187, 169 for 6 wickets. Lancashire 126. Drawn.	
North 92, 53. South 80, 56. North won by 49 runs.	

July 24.—Inspection of the Robin Hood Rifles on Bulwell Forest, by Colonel Chippendale, when 776 of all ranks were present.

August 11.—The Act of Parliament transferring the Nottingham Water Works to the Corporation received the Royal assent. The following are its chief provisions :—“That the Corporation shall pay interest at the rate of $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on each share for the year ending March 25th, 1881, $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for the year ending March 25th, 1882, 7 per cent. for the year ending March 25th, 1883, and in perpetuity. That the company shall retain £20,000 out of the moneys to come into their hands, and the Corporation are also to pay to the company the further sum of £10,000 in respect of their earnings prior to the day of transfer, March 25th, 1880.”

August 11.—Opening of the third section, the Basford branch, of the Nottingham Tramways. The company have now (Dec. 1st, 1879,) twenty cars running on the three sections, employing 192 horses, and the average number of passengers is from 50,000 to 60,000 weekly.

August 14.—Opening of mortuary chapel at the Church Cemetery, Nottingham. It is from the design of Mr. E. W. Godkin, of Westminster, and was built by Messrs. Bradley & Barker, of Nottingham, at a cost of £2,600.

August 30.—A man named Walter Shepherd, employed at the Midland station, met his death whilst crossing Carrington-street by falling under a passing tram car. No blame was attached to any person, and Shepherd was perfectly sober.

September 1.—Opening of the Nottingham and Melton branch of the Great Northern Railway.

September 1.—Serious accident at the Great Northern station, Nottingham, caused by a passenger train from Pinxton coming into collision with an engine standing on the rails, by which about twenty passengers were injured, some of them very seriously.

September 12, 13, & 15.—First garden fête at the Castle Museum grounds. The plants and shrubs lent by the noblemen and gentlemen of the town and county were of the choicest, some of them being particularly rare. The band of the 76th Regiment was in attendance, and in the evenings the grounds were illuminated with four thousand coloured lamps, arranged in various devices, giving to the scene a fairy-like effect, which was much appreciated by the immense concourse of spectators.

September 29 & 30.—The Mickleton jury, under the leadership of Mr. C. T. Jacoby (who officiated for his brother Alfred), made an inspection of the boundaries of the borough.

October 19.—Opening of the Roman Catholic mission church of St. Augustine, situate in Woodborough-road, by the Roman Catholic Bishop of Nottingham. It is constructed of iron, lined with satin wood, and the pews are all polished American pine. It will seat 300 persons.

1879 *October 21.*—At the first meeting of the 43rd season of the Nottingham Glee Club (established 1836) held at the Poultry Hotel, Mr. H. Fox resigned the office of hon. secretary, which he had held for twenty-one years. When Mr. H. Fox had been hon. secretary for seven years, a handsome gold watch was presented to him, and it is intended during the present season to present him with a testimonial.

This is the only remaining society of its kind in Nottingham, the purpose of which is to supply to its members and friends miscellaneous concerts at stated times during the winter season, for an annual subscription. For about nine years Mr. J. S. R. Annibal was the permanent chairman, and about the time of his taking to the hotel, a handsome timepiece was presented to him, accompanied by a testimonial, of which the following is an abstract:—"To J. S. R. Annibal. Sir,—The committee and members of the Nottingham Glee Club beg your acceptance of a timepiece, as a slight testimony of the esteem entertained by all for the services rendered by you as our chairman for the last seven years. 12th of March, 1862." Mr. Annibal continued the chairman until 1865, after which, the late Mr. G. Gostick, fishmonger, of Derby-road, acted for two years, since which time the chair has been taken by various gentlemen of the town and neighbourhood.

There were at one time two other kindred societies, one of which, the Anacreontic, was first established at the house of Mr. Timms, the Crown and Cushion, Market-street, on December 22nd, 1792, and continued in a flourishing condition for many years. It was remodelled after Mr. J. Farmer became host, and when he left the house, it was removed to the Durham Ox, where it was broken up about 1869. The other society, the Harmonic, was commenced in the year 1829, and for many years was held at the George Hotel, and subsequently at St. George's Hall, where it was closed in the spring of 1863. Mr. Charles Wragg, of Pelham-street, was the treasurer, and on December 23rd, 1858, a silver cup was presented to him in recognition of his services.

We must not omit to mention the Nottingham Sacred Harmonic Society, which was originated at a meeting held in Nov., 1856, of vocalists who had taken part in a recent performance of Mendelssohn's St. Paul, undertaken by Mr. Wm. Shelmerdine and Mr. E. H. Turpin, both of whom were then resident professors of music in Nottingham. Over one hundred amateurs enrolled themselves as members of the society at the first meeting, and shortly afterwards the society was fully constituted under the presidency of George Baker, Esq., Mr. Turpin being appointed conductor, Mr. Shelmerdine organist, Mr. W. Bedells treasurer, and Mr. W. Allen, hon. sec. The first public performance was given in the Mechanics' Hall, on January 27th, 1857, the work selected being Handel's Messiah.

November 1.—The Municipal elections. *Bridge Ward*, J. Turney; *Broxtowe*, J. P. Ford; *Byron*, W. Gregory; *Castle*, J.

Froggatt 396, C. Weldon 37; *Forest*, J. Miller; *Manvers*, F. 1879 Pullman; *Mapperley*, S. Robinson; *Market*, T. Worth; *Meadow*, H. M. Baines; *Robin Hood*, H. Browne; *St. Alban's*, F. Felkin 779, W. F. Faulconbridge 646; *St. Ann's*, W. Pyatt 950, W. H. Letherland 669; *St. Mary's*, T. Black 256, J. Wood 174; *Sherwood*, R. W. Smith; *Trent*, T. Palmer; *Wollaton*, J. Burton 666, S. J. Turner 249.

November 10.—Sir James Oldknow again appointed Mayor; Mr. F. Acton, Sheriff.

November 18.—St. Philip's (The Adams' Memorial) church consecrated by the Lord Bishop of Lincoln.

November 24.—Opening, at the Mechanics' Hall, by the Mayor (Sir James Oldknow), of a highly successful exhibition of apparatus and appliances for the use of gas for the purposes of lighting, heating, and cooking, and also as a motive power. It remained open six days, and was visited by about 15,000 persons.

November 29.—The premises of Mr. King, manure manufacturer, Hermit-square, Sneinton, destroyed by fire. Damages estimated at about £400.

December 6.—Died, at his town residence, Harcourt House, Cavendish-square, London, Wm. John Cavendish Scott Bentinck, 5th Duke of Portland, aged 79 years, one of the wealthiest peers of the realm. He succeeded to the dukedom in 1854, and was never married. His cousin, John William Arthur Charles James Cavendish, succeeds him.

December 8.—The following statistics taken by E. J. Lowe, Esq., of Highfield House, and Mr. M. O. Tarbotton, Borough Engineer, shew the greatest cold during the preceeding night at four feet above the ground:—

		Mr. Lowe.		Mr. Tarbotton.
December	1	... 21·9 deg.	...	25·3 deg.
"	2	... 3·8	...	4·5
"	3	... 15·9	...	8·0
"	4	... 15·7	...	16·2
"	5	... 14·2	...	13·6
"	6	... 14·7	...	20·6
"	7	...— 2·3	...	1·3
"	8	... 16·5	...	7·7

On the morning of the 7th, a thermometer so placed at Highfield House was more than 2 degrees below zero, and one on grass nearly $4\frac{1}{2}$ below zero—the coldest night since December 24-25, 1860, when it went down to 8, and on the grass to 13, degrees below zero.

We feel that this work would be incomplete did we not chronicle the visit of Mr. Daft's English team, composed principally of Notts. men, to America. For several years our trans-atlantic friends had endeavoured to get over a team of English professional cricketers; and at last, through the instrumentality of Mr. J. P.

- 1879 Ford, of this town, Mr. Richard Daft consented to take out the following players :—R. Daft (captain), W. Oscroft, J. Selby, A. Shrewsbury, W. Barnes, A. Shaw, and F. Morley, of Notts., and E. Lockwood, T. Emmett, G. Ulyett, G. Pinder, and W. Bates, of Yorkshire. They set sail, accompanied by Mr. Ford, in the *Sardinian*, on August 28th. The team were everywhere enthusiastically received. They played a series of twelve matches in Canada and the United States, of which they won 9, and the remainder were drawn greatly in their favour.

The Nottingham Corporation debt, now assuming such colossal proportions, was very humble in its origin, which is of comparatively recent date. It appears from the published "Abstract of the Audited Accounts of the Treasurer of the Borough of Nottingham" for the financial year ending the 1st of September, 1850, to have commenced with the building of the Baths and Wash-houses in the Meadow Platts, on the west side of Sneinton Market-place, a loan of £3,000 having been obtained on mortgage at 4 per cent. to be applied towards the cost of their erection. This was supplemented the following year by a further loan of £1,700 procured on mortgage at a similar rate of interest, making a total of £4,700, a sum which has remained owing on the Baths and Wash-houses ever since.

The Treasurer's accounts present us with no statement or summary of the indebtedness of the Corporation, until the account for the year ending the 31st August, 1861, when it amounted to £36,130, which included, amongst others, the foregoing £4,700 on the Baths and Wash-houses, £7,200 on the Lunatic Asylum, Sneinton, £7,700 on the Borough Gaol improvement, and £16,130 on street improvement.

The following tabular statement, compiled from the printed abstracted accounts of the Corporation, will give the reader some insight into the rapid growth of the Nottingham Corporation debt from this period :—

		£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.
1862	...	67,215	13	0	1867	...	143,014	18	10
1863	...	72,617	5	8	1868	...	152,231	4	10
1864	...	93,145	19	0	1869	...	161,486	6	10
1865	...	132,713	7	8	1870	...	160,350	1	2
1866	...	122,304	15	0					

From this date the loans are divided under the heads of

The Chamber Estate.	Local Board of Health.	The New Trent Bridge.	Total
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1871-28,218 15 0	117,156 15 6	12,750 0 0	158,125 10 6
1872-29,277 1 8	114,683 16 2	21,658 1 6	165,618 19 4

Henceforward the first two items are termed

1879

The Borough Fund.	The General Dis- trict Rate.	The New Trent Bridge.	Total.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1873-26,516 13 4...	117,888 16 2...	19,958 1 6...	164,363 11 0
1874-29,450 0 0...	122,846 14 4...	20,328 1 6...	172,624 15 10
1875-30,333 6 8...	123,274 4 4...	18,978 1 6...	172,585 12 6
1876-28,916 13 4...	133,359 4 4...	18,178 1 6...	180,453 19 2
1877-37,100 0 0...	135,987 14 4...	17,678 1 6...	190,767 15 10

On the 1st November, 1877, the annexation of the outlying parishes to the municipality of Nottingham took place, and on this date the indebtedness of the old Corporation stood as follows:—

The Borough Fund.	The General District Rate.	The New Trent Bridge.	Total.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
46,500 0 0...	142,669 14 4...	17,678 1 6...	206,847 15 10

The first printed abstracted account of the extended municipality comprises only the short period expiring the 25th March, 1878, an order of the Local Government Board, dated the 9th of February, 1878, having been issued prescribing that the accounts of Corporations shall be made up to the 25th March, and that the printed accounts shall be published after that date in every year; so that on the 25th of March, 1878, the indebtedness of the new or extended Corporation—the debts of the Local Boards of the annexed parishes having been taken over by the Nottingham Corporation, viz., Basford £10,600, Bulwell £2,200, Sneinton £5,750, and of the Leen District Sewerage Board, the same by the annexation having fallen entirely into the jurisdiction of the Corporation, about £120,000—was as follows:—

The Chamber Estate.	The General District Rate and Borough Fund.	The New Trent Bridge.	Mortgages on the Bridge Est.	Total.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
18,400...	340,290 17 9...	15,508 1 6...	6,170...	380,368 19 3

On the 25th of March, 1879, according to the last published abstracted account, the Nottingham Corporation debt was as under:—

The Chamber Estate.	The General District Rate and Borough Funds.	Private Improvement Works Fund.	The New Trent Bridge.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
18,400 ...	457,312 11 1 ...	19,047 5 9 ...	13,108 1 6
Mortgages on the Bridge Estate.			
£ s. d.			
6,170 0 0 ...			
Total.			
£ s. d.			
514,037 18 4			

Included in the above are the sums of £15,000 paid as compensation to the county for Police stations, loss of rateable value, &c., under the Borough Extension Act, 1877, and of £11,775 also paid under the same act as compensation for loss of office.

Perhaps the total may ultimately be reduced by the amount of the Private Improvement Works Fund (£19,047 5s. 9d.), as it is expected that the whole amount will be repaid with legitimate interest by the owners of properties improved.

1879 The recent purchase of the Gas Works by the Corporation has not been brought into the account in any way. For the present it may be considered as a going paying concern. The water supply does not come into the hands of the Corporation until Lady-day, 1880.

The debt of the Nottingham School Board, not included in the above, was (Michaelmas, 1879) £73,017 3s. 7d., for which amount, and the interest thereon, together with the working expenses of the School Board, the Corporation, as the rating authority, are responsible. The payments from the Corporation to the School Board during the year ending Michaelmas, 1879, have been £10,400, equivalent to a rate of 4½d. in the pound.

The General District or Borough Rate, now entirely under the control of the Corporation as regards its ordering, collecting, and spending, was this year (1879) at the rate of 3s. 11½d. in the pound made upon the rateable value of £635,875 5s. 0d., and estimated to produce about the sum of £100,000.

The income of the Nottingham Corporation for the year ending Lady-day, 1879, may be taken in round numbers at £150,000, made up in part by the rents (gross in each case) of the following estates, viz. :—

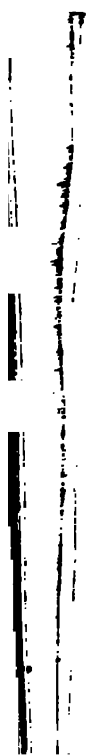
Chamber Estate	...	...	...	£8,848
Rents of Shambles	...	...	...	1,193
Tolls, Stallages, and Standings at Markets and Fairs	...	...	...	4,958
Sale of Nightsoil, &c...	...	...	...	5,436
Admission to Castle Museum	...	...	...	3,422
Bridge Estate Rents	...	...	...	7,460

To which must be added, Fines and Fees at Petty Sessions £2,000, Government Grants for Pay and Clothing of Police and expenses of Prosecutions £8,000, and other minor receipts from various sources, making with the amount from the General District Rate, a grand total of £150,000.

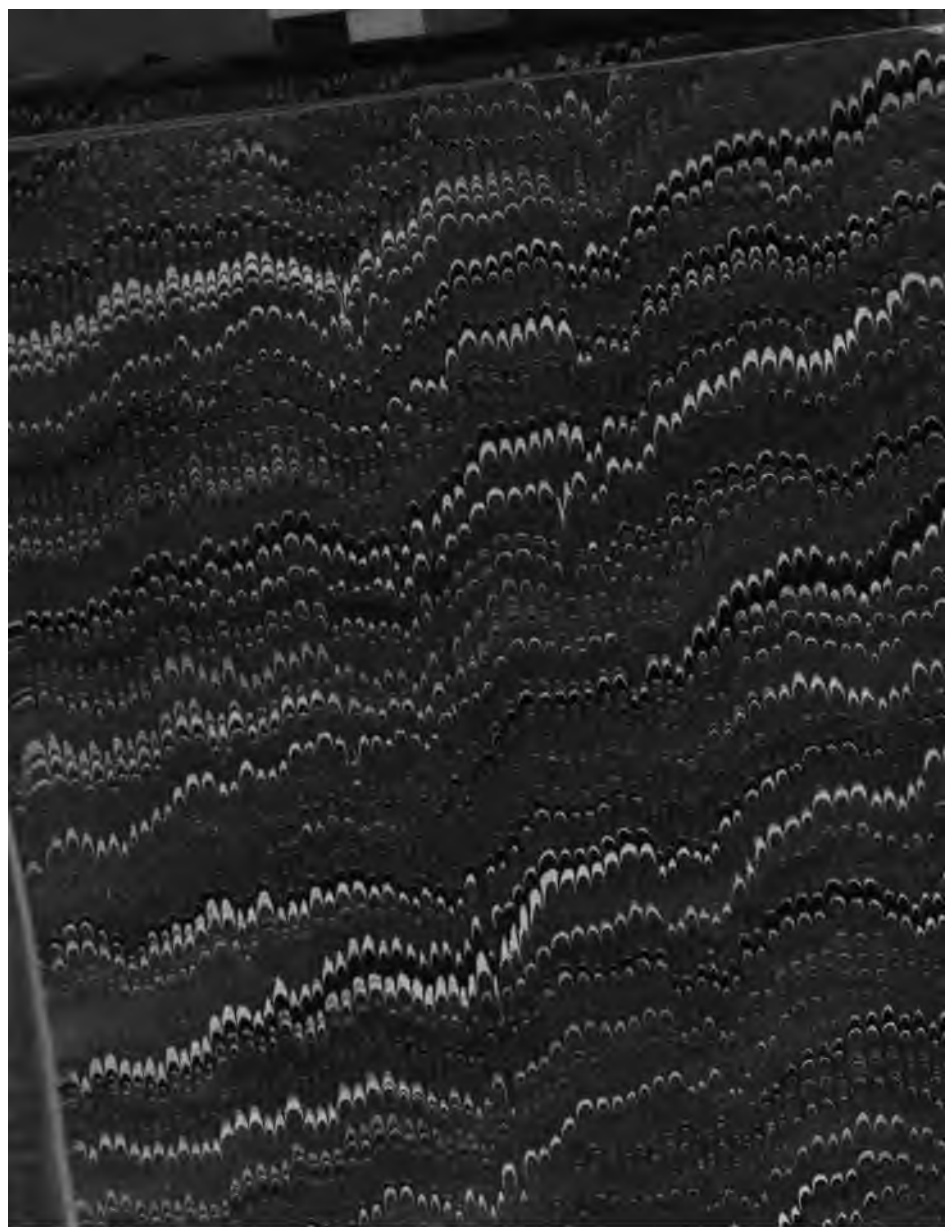
Excessive as the expenditure may be considered, it cannot be denied that the inhabitants of Nottingham live in one of the healthiest and handsomest towns this or any other country of the world at the present day can shew. It always charms the traveller, and roam where you will, you find its sons ever proud to claim kindred with it. Its natural situation of hill and dale, with, for the most part, a sand and gravelly foundation, has been taken advantage of to develop and promote sanitary arrangements to the utmost; while its atmosphere, sharp but bracing, will be found in the absence of any disease affecting the chest, conducive, as the tables of mortality prove, to long life.

In conclusion, it is hoped that no apology will be necessary for applying to Nottingham the following lines :—

He that on its happy soil
Is not content to stay,
May leave it when he likes; and find
A better where he may.



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